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# Daily Report

# Central Eurasia

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# Daily Report
## Central Eurasia

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NOTICE: An * indicates material not previously disseminated in electronic form.

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## Black Sea Zone Ministers Seek New Impetus for Relations

*LD1504082895 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0800 GMT 15 Apr 95*

[By ITAR-TASS Special correspondents Dmitriy Gorokhov, Yuriy Malinov, and Vladimir Malyshev]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Athens April 15 TASS—The main result of the fifth conference of foreign ministers representing member countries of the Black Sea Zone of economic cooperation, which was held here on Friday, was that it gave a new impetus to the active development of relations between Black Sea countries.

The forum was attended by the foreign ministers from Albania, Azerbaijan, Bulgaria—all in all, 11 countries in the region, as well as states having the status of observers. The Russian delegation was led by Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev.

Speaking at the final news conference, Greek Foreign Minister Karlos Papoulias noted that the present meeting was "especially lucky" and was held in "a good climate".

He noted that the ministers adopted 15 reports of working groups concerning the development of cooperation in the sphere of the power industry, telecommunications, tourism, trade and in other fields.

According to the minister, it was decided to implement a Romanian initiative on a top-level meeting of zone participants in Bucharest in the latter half of June. A forum of businessmen will be held prior to the meeting.

The Friday meeting approved Greece's proposal to establish a scientific cooperation centre and expressed readiness to ratify a decision on setting up a Black Sea bank on trade and development in Saloniki.

The Russian foreign minister was asked why Russia did not sign a statement informing the U.N. Security Council of great damage suffered by neighbouring states from sanctions against Serbia and Montenegro.

This statement was signed outside the meeting auditorium by the Bulgarian, Greek, Moldovan, Romanian and Ukrainian ministers. Kozyrev said that Russia supports this initiative and believes that it is timely.

He stressed that "we are for lifting off sanctions. We have not put our signature only due to the fact that this is a statement by ministers from states which are in direct geographical proximity to Yugoslavia".

Other talks outside the meeting auditorium were also important. For instance, the foreign ministers of Russia, Bulgaria and Greece discussed a project for building an oil pipeline from the Bulgarian port of Burgas to the Greek port of Aleksandroupolis to transport oil to south Europe.

Speaking on this issue, Kozyrev told the news conference that the matter in question is one of numerous versions to transport oil, and that he would not like to create an impression that the question is sealed.

The project looks as promising. But it is necessary to make a deep expert examination to pass a decision. "We agreed to arrange such an expert meeting," he noted.

World Bank representative Anders Zeylon told ITAR-TASS that the Greek meeting was of great importance for strengthening economic contacts between countries in the region. "We are ready to render financial aid to specific projects," he said.

"For this purpose, we shall closely cooperate with a Black Sea bank on trade and development in Saloniki, the establishment of which will be accelerated, as the meeting decided."

## CIS Secretariat Representative Starts Work in Geneva

*MM1404140495 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 14 Apr 95 First Edition p 6*

[Report by Aleksandr Shinkin: "Our Man in Geneva. CIS Official Representative to United Nations Begins Work"]

[FBIS Translated Text] The CIS, which has received observer status at the United Nations, has taken another step toward broadening international contacts: Abdulla Ismailov, the first official representative of the CIS Secretariat, has begun work in Geneva.

CIS Executive Secretary Ivan Korotchenya commented as follows:

"This is the Secretariat's first foreign mission," he said. "Its opening once again proves the Commonwealth's viability and the correctness of its creation."

The representative's task is to brief the Secretariat and the Commonwealth states on the activity of the European Headquarters of the United Nations and other international organization which interest them.

Abdulla Ismailov is an Uzbek by nationality. Prior to this appointment he worked in the Russian Foreign Ministry as head of a section in the Department for CIS Affairs.

Right now Russia has taken on the funding of the mission as the country which chairs the CIS. The Secretariat's budget had not scheduled funds for this. However, I am convinced that the question of funding the mission will be resolved positively when it is examined by the CIS member countries. The sovereignty and independence of our states will not be flouted by this. After all other regional organizations have a host of staffers in Geneva, which has primarily become the repository of information on the most important problems of present-day society. And the Commonwealth countries are interested in it.

The deepening of mutually beneficial ties with UN establishments, notably with the European Economic Commission, is of great importance for the Commonwealth countries. There are diverse spheres for cooperation here. Namely the development of information structures, the organization of courses to boost specialists' skills, the holding of conferences on questions of mutual interest....

Take the problem of the environment. The implementation of projects at the level of international organizations could be of undoubted benefit here. The CIS Secretariat and the European Economic Commission could jointly work on such projects as the preservation of the Aral Sea and the protection of the ozone layer.

Thus, the CIS Secretariat's representative to the European branch of the United Nations has a wide range of duties and considerable opportunities to broaden international ties.

## Central Asian Leaders Discuss Tajik Situation

*LD1404172595 Tashkent Uzbekistan Television in Russian 1430 GMT 14 Apr 95*

[FBIS Translated Text] A declaration by the heads of state of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and Uzbekistan in Tajikistan.

During the working meeting that took place on today in the city of Chimkent, Presidents Nazarbayev, Akayev, and Karimov had an exchange of views on the situation that has arisen in Tajikistan and on the Tajik-Afghan border. The participants in the meeting denounced the action launched by armed formations of the [Tajik] opposition on 7 April, which led to human casualties, and expressed their deep condolences to the families of the Russian, Kazakhstan, and Tajik border guards who died.

The heads of state, expressing support for a resolution adopted earlier within the framework of the CIS on regulating the Tajik problem, and on recognizing the border between Tajikistan and Afghanistan as the external border of the Commonwealth, unanimously agreed that a final resolution to the crisis in Tajikistan can be reached only through political dialogue and a search for mutual compromise.

The participants in the meeting called on the opposition to reject military and other violent methods of solving the crisis in Tajikistan, and called on the CIS states, the UN, and the OSCE [Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe] to help make successful progress toward national reconciliation and the establishment of lasting peace and stability in Tajikistan.

The heads of state of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and Uzbekistan suggest that the leadership of Tajikistan should activate the inter-Tajik talks process and use all possible means to regulate the conflict situation.

Simultaneously with this, it is suggested to the government of Tajikistan and opposition that they, in mutual accord, should as soon as possible, conduct the next regular round of inter-Tajik talks at the highest level under UN aegis in the city of Almaty.

The presidents of the three Central Asian states expressed their readiness to render any kind of assistance and support to the successful progress of the inter-Tajik dialogue, and again confirmed the necessity of achieving an all-embracing resolution to all aspects of the Tajik problem by peaceful and not violent methods.

## Central Asian Presidents Issue Communique on Cooperation

*LD1504105595 Tashkent NARODNOYE SLOVO in Russian 15 Apr 95 p 1*

["Communique" on "regular" meeting of Kazakh President Nursultan Nazarbayev, Kyrgyz President Askar Akayev, and Uzbek President Islam Karimov on 14 April in Chimkent, Kazakhstan]

[FBIS Translated Text] On 14 April, a regular meeting of the heads of three Central Asian states—Kazakh President Nursultan Nazarbayev, Kyrgyz President Askar Akayev, and Uzbek President Islam Karimov—took place in the city of Chimkent.

The heads of state exchanged opinions on a number of issues relating to the situation in the Central Asian region and relations between the three countries.

The presidents' negotiations again confirmed the unity of the positions of these states in further developing mutually beneficial relations. In the course of the meeting, concrete approaches were defined for the fuller use of the potential available for cooperation between the three countries and for the acceleration of the process of integration of the Central Asian states.

The presidents of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and Uzbekistan considered the key aspects in the process of implementing the Treaty on Creating a Single Economic Space.

Concrete recommendations for further strengthening cooperation within the treaty framework were made.

The program for economic integration between the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, and the Republic of Uzbekistan up to the year 2000 was considered in detail and approved. Information from the executive committee of the Interstate Council of the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, and the Republic of Uzbekistan and the Central Asian Bank for Cooperation and Development was heard.

The presidents of Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan emphasized their adherence to creating a single customs space and declared their readiness to join the customs union of the Russian Federation, the Republic of Belarus, and the Republic of Kazakhstan, which will become a new testimony to the Central Asian republics' aspirations to strengthen the processes of integration.

The heads of state considered the political processes underway in their countries in their broad historical context.

President Askar Akayev of Kyrgyzstan and President Islam Karimov of Uzbekistan believe that, in the prevailing socio-political conditions, the decision to hold a referendum on extending the term in office of President Nursultan Nazarbayev is the most optimal, and will serve to secure social stability, and ensure the consequent and dynamic implementation of economic transformations in the name of the prosperity and well-being of Kazakhstan's people.

The meeting of the heads of state confirmed once again the need to continue dialogue between the leaders of the three countries, and the long-term prospects for extending cooperation between Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and Uzbekistan in the context of CIS integration processes.

The heads of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and Uzbekistan, having analyzed the development of processes in the region in the economic, political and humanitarian spheres, stated that a definite legal basis and the political preconditions have been created for the formation of an Association of Central Asian States.

In order to secure stability in the region, the heads of the three states deem it expedient to establish a joint battalion of peacekeeping forces under the UN aegis, and noted with satisfaction that this initiative had received the backing of UN Secretary General Butrus-Ghali.

They ordered their heads of government and ministries of defense to introduce concrete proposals for its formation.

The presidents of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and Uzbekistan decided to support and undertake the necessary efforts in the international arena to promote the Kazakh initiative to call a conference on cooperation and confidence-building measures in Asia, and the Uzbek initiative to organize a permanent UN seminar in Tashkent on the problems of security and cooperation in Central Asia.

The parties expressed their intention in future to carry out an active policy within the CIS framework, to encourage the strengthening of the Commonwealth with the aim of preserving regional stability in the region, and achieving mutual understanding and further developing international cooperation.

[Dated] Chimkent City, 14 April 1995

## ITAR-TASS Carries Press Review for 15 Apr

*LD1504070895 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0512 GMT 15 Apr 95*

["Press Review"—ITAR-TASS headline]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow April 15 TASS—The coming celebration of the 50th anniversary of the great victory and the present problems of Russian Armed Forces are among the main topics of today's Russian newspapers. On the eve of the salient jubilee, Russian Vice-Premier Sergey Shakhray devotes his article in the Army newspaper KRASNAYA ZVEZDA to the issue of patriotism.

"Speaking of patriotism," he writes, "we have no right to hide our head into sand, like an ostrich. We should also speak about its problems. We cannot keep mum, for instance, about problems of the Army, problems of relations between young people and the Army, problems of the state and the Army. "If we do not preserve our Army, we shall not preserve our state either." The vice-premier believes that the idea of returning to two-year service in the army is correct. According to Shakhray, "the 18-month period of service has turned to be a thoughtless experiment...".

In turn, the newspaper hails the position taken by members of the lower house of the Russian parliament, who voted for a bill providing for an extension of the period of military service, although this unpopular step may tell on their election chances.

The daily notes that "if legislators adopted the bill under the present conditions, this means that they understood: persistence of the present situation threatens with a complete collapse and disaster".

Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev favours a pause in the question on NATO expansion in an interview with a TRUD newspaper Rome correspondent given to him after a meeting with the Italian prime minister.

"This should be a pause of partnership," he stressed. "If talks on a hasty expansion of NATO stopped now, and the accent was again made, as it was agreed, on cooperation, we would launch the "partnership" programme.

Speaking about the coming festivities in Moscow on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the V-Day, the minister noted: "They should remind the world who were our true allies in this struggle, the most decisive for our people: They were the United States, Britain and France, that is the so-called Western countries.

"We want them to be our partners now and allies in future."

The ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA newspaper runs a material under the headline "Fascism From Underground", based on an interview with "a counterintelligence officer".

According to the officer, "counterintelligence has information that some financial quarters support Russian nationalists. Just in case: History can make a violent turnabout all of a sudden, and they (eds: nationalists) will grab the helm of the state".

The IZVESTIYA newspaper comments on data in a report by the Russian Statistics Committee for January-March. It claims that "the country is pulling out of the crisis".

To corroborate this claim, the daily points to the fact that "the country's gross domestic product declined by five percent as against the corresponding period last year (it dropped by 17 percent in the first quarter of last year as compared with the same period of 1993)."

The report says that "a slump in engineering has virtually stopped". "Prospects for financial stabilisation are even more encouraging". However, a considerable growth in unemployment harms the picture.

"True, a rise in unemployment is almost an inevitable concomitant of declining inflation," the newspaper explains. "The only consolation is that we have to pass this stage all the same. Well, it is better to do this as soon as possible."

IZVESTIYA is very critical about the present care of authorities for war veterans. According to the daily, "an impulsive, importunate but lump-sum, so-called love of authorities for veterans will not replace a real, everyday and, therefore, the most difficult care which can be called policy in this sphere".

The NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA front-pages an article on ensuring security at the coming military parade in Moscow, which will be attended by the president as commander-in-chief.

The newspaper claims that "everything connected with events on the Poklonnaya Hill is closely controlled by secret services: the chief protection administration, the president's security service, the Federal Security Service and the Interior Ministry".

The newspaper writes that "the military counterintelligence administration of the Federal Security Service now studies sentiments of parade participants, exposing suspects".

## U.S. Now Being Blamed for 'Destruction' of Russia

*MM1204101395 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 11 Apr 95 p 3*

[First in a series of articles by Vladimir Isakov under the "Parliamentary Diary" rubric: "The Hand of James"]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] [passage omitted] It is quite obvious that the Americans regard the collapse of the USSR as their major strategic victory, one which was moreover achieved without bloodshed, without a single shot being fired. President Bush and later President Clinton described this outright as victory in the Cold War. Yeltsin had to get himself out of trouble by saying that this was not a victory in a war but that everyone stood to gain from the collapse of communism (for that read the USSR).

No way! The Americans are not such fools as to be deceived over who won and who lost. Addressing a small group of journalists, former Secretary of State James Baker frankly admitted: "We also had a hand in the collapse of the USSR."

Now the U.S. Government's efforts are aimed at consolidating their success, namely preventing the "merger" of parts of the former USSR, taking the edge off or pulling Russia's nuclear teeth, and backing Gaydar-type reforms, which result in the elimination of the most valuable section of Russia's scientific and technical potential and its integration into the Western economy as a supplier of raw materials.

All that is well known and has repeatedly been discussed in the patriotic press and of late in the pro-government press too. But it is also obvious that this policy has its limitations; the further it goes, the more it begins to restrict its "scope."

First, by supporting "reforms" which are unpopular in the country, the Americans take some of the blame for their consequences. The mind of Joe Public, not disposed to self-analysis, is well-disposed to blame external forces for everything, and the Americans seem specially cut out to play the role of "villain."

Second, by supporting and promoting "reformers" like Gaydar, Chubays, and Kozyrev, the Americans are giving cause for accusations of outright interference in Russia's internal affairs. Many people are beginning to think that the "reformers" hold their posts solely because they have U.S. support.

Third, the frenzied propaganda of U.S. values and the U.S. way of life on radio and television is already at saturation point and eliciting alienation rather than a rapturous response. We seem to have nothing of our own left.

Fourth, having assumed the role of judge in the very complex and rapidly-changing Russian political trial but without fully understanding it, the Americans very often find themselves prey to their own "stagnant" stereotypes. And thus irritate everyone.

Fifth, by supporting Yeltsin and his team the Americans are forced to constantly display double standards, to wit talk about a rule-of-law state while closing their eyes to the obvious lawlessness in Russia, and advocate the principle of separation of powers while resigning themselves to the fact that a monopolistic dictatorial authority is being restored in Russia. This policy is putting the U.S. Administration in a difficult position with its own people, giving rise to perplexity and criticism among the well- educated, thinking section of the population.

And, most importantly, the policy of the controlled destruction of Russia is unpromising in terms of its ultimate objectives. Since I am convinced that Russia and its people will find the strength to take up the historical challenge. Having overcome the crisis phase, Russia will ultimately take up a fitting place among the other peoples and countries. [passage omitted]

## Commander on U.S. 'Dictating' Conditions of Victory Parade

*LD1504112095 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1000 GMT 15 Apr 95*

[Video report by correspondent Maslennikov; from the "Vesti" newscast]

[FBIS Translated Text] [Correspondent Maslennikov] Less than a month remains before 9 May. Today Yevgeniy Podkolzin, commander of Russia's airborne troops, inspected on Khodinskoye Field in Moscow, the readiness of the parade unit of the forces which he commands. He paid special attention to the equipment and personally inspected several combat vehicles. Podkolzin was satisfied with the state of readiness of the airborne troops. Several officers were even presented with commander's watches. Following the inspection the commander spent a few minutes with the press.

[Begin Podkolzin recording] I was satisfied to see today many of those who fought in Chechnya and are still serving and who will take part in the march-past of the parade units. [end recording]

[Maslennikov] Replying to a question from "Vesti" that the U.S. administration did not welcome the participation of servicemen who fought in Chechnya, the commander said:

[Begin Polkolzin recording] I think the American administration has no business dictating to us the conditions regarding who takes part in the parade. This is my personal opinion. [end recording]

## Yeltsin Comments on Upcoming Talks With U.S. President

*LD1504104195 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0951 GMT 15 Apr 95*

[By ITAR-TASS observer Tamara Zamyatina]

[FBIS Translated Text] Moscow, 15 Apr—U.S. President Bill Clinton will be in Moscow on 10 and 11 May after the 50th anniversary victory celebrations and the president of Russia will discuss with him then "questions of bilateral relations and world politics." Boris Yeltsin said this today in an ITAR-TASS interview.

Detailing the forthcoming summit talks, Boris Yeltsin said that "as always what will be at issue will be major problems. We will speak about NATO." The head of the Russian state stressed: "I will state frankly Russia's ideas on this question, so there is no misunderstanding." Boris Yeltsin said that questions of disarmament, the nonproliferation of nuclear weapons, and interaction in settling conflicts would also be discussed during the talks.

Characterizing the present state of Russian-American relations, Boris Yeltsin noted: "We are developing partnership potential, and it is developing successfully in many directions. I value good personal relations with President Bill Clinton and am sure that our conversations with him will produce results, as always."

### Davydov, U.S. Secretary Brown To Discuss Trade, Economy

*LD1404144395 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1330 GMT 14 Apr 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW, April 14 (Interfax)—Russia intends to press for supplying more domestic commodities to the American market, Oleg Davydov, Russia's deputy prime minister and foreign economic ties minister, told Interfax on Friday before leaving for U.S. for talks with the US Commerce Secretary Ron Brown early next week.

During the talks, which, according to Davydov, will be held in preparation for a Russian-American summit in Moscow, a wide range of bilateral trade and economic problems will be discussed. The Russian side, as Davydov noted, "will bring up the questions of creating more favorable conditions to accelerate the export of Russian manufactured goods to U.S., lifting a number of anti-dumping restrictions on raw materials, liberalizing the procedure of obtaining licences for the supply of domestically manufactured hunting guns to the American market, and making it possible for Russian exporters to take part in fulfilling government contracts within the framework of the federal programs of the American administration."

Davydov stated that in the last three years, Russian-American trade had been spiralling upwards mainly through bigger Russian export. Last year, trade turnover between the two countries reached $.45 billion, a more than $1 billion increase from 1993. Significantly, Russia for the first time in years attained a positive balance in trade with U.S. - $1.4 billion. What Russia sold to U.S. exceeded what it bought there 1.6 times. However, that happened mainly because of the accelerated shipment of raw materials - aluminium, pig iron, rolled metal and semi-finished iron and steel products, nuclear materials, and crude oil. On the whole, raw materials comprised over 90 of Russia's deliveries, whereas the share of machinery and equipment was under 0.5 percent.

In Davydov's opinion, restrictions on the supply of high tech equipment, tough U.S. anti-dumping legislation, and the uncompetitiveness of many Russian goods are still significant obstacles to the acceleration of Russian export to U.S.

### Russian UN Envoy on Partial Lifting of Iraqi Oil Embargo

*LD1404192295 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1845 GMT 14 Apr 95*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Boris Sitnikov]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] United Nations April 14 TASS—A meeting of the United Nations Security Council was held here today to partially cancel the embargo on Iraqi oil exports on the "oil for food" formula for an initial period of 180 days.

According to the unanimously adopted resolution, Iraq is allowed to sell oil and oil products worth of one billion dollars every 90 days to pay for foodstuffs and medicines delivered for the Iraqi population. States-importers of Iraqi oil shall transfer oil payments to a special deposit account of the United Nations and not to the Iraqi Government. One third of this money will be transferred to the so-called Compensational Fund for payment of compensations to victims of the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait. The rest of money will be used to pay for food and medicines.

The Security Council stressed that 150 million dollars will be allocated from the special deposit account every 90 days to render humanitarian aid to the Iraqi northern territories.

Russia views the resolution as a step towards full cancellation of sanctions against Iraq, Russian Permanent Representative to the United Nations Sergey Lavrov told the Security Council today.

He expressed profound concern with the critical humanitarian situation in Iraq and said "this is the result of sanctions that should be cut in response to the constructive actions of Iraq. We consider it necessary to take emergency and efficient measures to ease the sanctions and improve the position of the Iraqi population."

The Russian delegation took active part in the elaboration of the resolution and worked to make it achieve the humanitarian goal. "Together with a large group of delegations we offered amendments to the resolution drafters. We are noting with satisfaction that intensive consultations resulted in the draft provisions that give hope for the achievement of noble goals proclaimed in it. This enabled us to vote for the resolution. It is important that the resolution confirms the obligation of all states to respect sovereignty and territorial integrity of Iraqi and provides for participation of the Iraqi Government in coordination of ways to carry out the humanitarian action," said the Russian representative.

United Nations Secretary General Butrus Butrus-Ghali has addressed correspondents in connection with the Security Council resolution on partial lift of the Iraqi oil embargo. He stressed that the resolution was unanimously approved by all the 15 members of the Security Council, which means it enjoys the support of the whole international community.

The secretary-general said this is the first step to overcome the crisis in relations of the international community and Iraqi. He hopes peace will prevail and they will soon be able to fully cancel the sanctions.

### Foreign Ministry Official Views Iraq Embargo Position

*JN1404181395 Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio Network in Arabic 1600 GMT 14 Apr 95*

[FBIS Translated Text] In a statement, Aleksandr Kalugin, a Russian Foreign Ministry official, has said: The continuing blockade imposed on Iraq and the absence of a way to resolve this situation poses a grave danger and causes tension in the region.

He added: If the situation develops in this way, it will be counterproductive for the issue of settlement in the Arabian Gulf. It could adversely affect the entire regional situation. He said the Russian Foreign Ministry's position is based on the fact that while Iraq is duty-bound to implement all demands of the international community, the UN Security Council should respond in an equitable manner to Iraq's positive conduct.

He continued: There is clear development in Iraq's position: Recognizing Kuwait, destroying the weapons of mass destruction, and securing long-term monitoring of Iraq's military programs. At the same time, and as was the case previously, the problem known as the Iraqi biological file has not yet been resolved. However, Russia does not consider this to be a tragic situation. Russia hopes the outstanding issues will be resolved as part of Iraq's continued cooperation with the UN Special Commission.

The Russian official added: We believe such a way out will offer room to ease sanctions and lift the embargo on exporting Iraqi oil and other commodities, depending on the firm commitment to Paragraph 22 of UN Security Council Resolution 687, which considers the phased cancellation of the embargo imposed on the export of commodities from Iraq.

He continued: It is illogical to think that, in addressing the Iraqi issue, Russia follows only its economic interests, despite the fact that these interests undoubtedly exist. In fact, the motives of Russia and Russian diplomacy are much wider. As a big power, Russia has an ethical responsibility in terms of not giving provoking new hotbeds of military tension. Iraq lies very close to the borders of Russia, so it is impossible for events in this region not to harm our political and strategic interests.

### Official Confirms Moscow Will Deliver Reactors to Iran

*LD1404162195 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1441 GMT 14 Apr 95*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Anatoliy Yurkin]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow April 14 TASS—Russia will fulfill the contract on delivery of energy reactors to Iran, representative of the Russian Nuclear Energy Ministry Vyacheslav Sychev told an exclusive ITAR-TASS interview today.

In his words, the construction of reactors analogous to the ones to be delivered to North Korea by the United States, Japan and South Korea poses no threat to Iranian neighbours or any other nations. The Russian reactors to be delivered to Iran are unable to make war nuclear materials. This action is also unable to boost the creation and proliferation of nuclear arms as it is claimed by Western mass media.

The Russian-Iranian contract provides for processing of Iranian nuclear waste by Russian enterprises, said Sychev. After the waste is rendered harmless, it will be processed and returned to Tehran for burying. Thus, everything said about the "Russian complicity in creation of Iranian nuclear bomb" is mere inventions aiming to increase pressure on the Russian Federation and make it refuse from the profitable contract, added the ministry representative.

Promises of U.S. representatives on possible compensation to be offered in case of the contract annulment seem vague, said Sychev. They voice a possibility of Russian participation in the international consortium formed for the delivery of several light- water reactors to North Korea, but orders on their production have been distributed. Russia was only offered to accept nuclear waste for processing. This variant does not satisfy Russia and it was rejected, said the ministry staffer.

The Russian-Iranian contract will help Russian nuclear power engineering to keep thousands of jobs and advance Russian production technologies. This is feared by Russian competitors who clearly understand the Russian ability to take leading positions on the world market of reliable and cheap reactors for new generations of nuclear power plants before the end of this century. It is competition that makes them speak of mythical Iranian nuclear threats, which are not confirmed by facts, said Sychev.

## Chernyshev on 'Double Standards' of U.S. Reactor Policy

*LD1404181395 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1627 GMT 14 Apr 95*

[From the "Diplomatic Panorama" feature: by diplomatic correspondents Aleksandr Korzun, Igor Porshnev, Yevgeniy Terekhov, and others]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW, April 14 (Interfax)—Russia's Deputy Foreign Minister Albert Chernyshev described America's persistent attempts to force Russia's refusal from deliveries of light water nuclear reactors for the atomic power station in the city of Bushehr (Iran) as reflection of the policy of "dual standards."

"The reactors which Moscow plans to sell to Tehran in the frameworks of the contract are identical to those which the United State recommend for re-structuring Pyongyang's nuclear program. Meanwhile, the Americans accuse North Korea and Iran of supporting "international terrorism," Chernyshev declared in an interview with Interfax Friday.

In his words, in both cases the question concerns light water reactors which are unable to generate weapons grade plutonium.

In addition, Chernyshev said, the Russian-Iranian contract "meets all international standards" and the atomic power station in Bushehr "is under a strict control of the IAEA."

Chernyshev said that over the last time the Americans "have lowered the grade." "They do not say already that the Russian nuclear reactors intended for Tehran can be used for creating nuclear weapons but express concern due to possible "leakage" of information, technology, etc., in the course of contacts between our experts on atomic energy and the Iranians," Chernyshev explained.

In his words, "such assertions are also deprived of sound sense." "In this case we have to do with civil but not military production. And this is quite different. Special services are to watch non- divulging of military secrets," Chernyshev underlined.

He said that assertions of Russian mass media stating that Russia has allegedly concluded a deal with Iran under the pressure of Russia's Atomic Energy Ministry "do not correspond to the reality."

"Signing of this contract is an initiative of not only one department. The issue was discussed in the government and the decision on this issue was adopted on a state level. The Atomic Energy Ministry fulfills this decision," Chernyshev underlined.

## Lukin Cited on NPT Extension Prospects

*MK1504160995 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 15 Apr 95 p 2*

[Report by Mikhail Karpov under the "Disarmament" rubric: "Reflections on the Eve of the Conference. Vladimir Lukin, Head of the Duma Committee for International Affairs, Comments on the United Nations Conference on Updating the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) Due To Open in New York on 17 April"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Vladimir Lukin believes that extending the NPT for an indefinite term has been rightly chosen as the conference's main principle—even if it is not possible to reach an agreement on such an extension at once. Some progress in this respect has been noted in Latin American countries—Argentina, Brazil, and even in Cuba. In Asia, where some countries will probably refuse to sign the treaty, progressive trends have been observed in China, in India, and even in the DPRK—despite the permanent instability of its stance.

At the same time, there are some factors which do evoke the Duma committee head's concern. In the long-term perspective, nuclear disarmament is faced with serious problems—both political and purely military and technical. In terms of military technology, the production of nuclear weapons is becoming easier, which entails the temptation to achieve significant results at a relatively low cost—to build "a bomb in the cellar," in Lukin's words.

At the same time, the number of crisis situations in the world is increasing. Paradoxically, in trying to avoid involvement in ordinary crisis situations and to prevent their spread, some "by no means crazy, but short-sighted leaders" believe that having "a bomb in the cellar" is to have an ultimate reserve in case the situation explodes. This was precisely the reasoning of confrontation's principal antagonists—the United States and the USSR—under the bipolar world conditions. For them, however, a regional crisis was a crisis in the region "called the Earth." The same pattern of thinking can be observed today in Iraq, in Israel, and in Iran.

In Lukin's opinion, the process of vertical disarmament is a bumpy one. As is known, horizontal disarmament implies non- proliferation of nuclear weapons and even narrowing the circle of countries possessing them; and vertical disarmament means a decrease in the potential of the main nuclear powers. Russia has markedly downsized its potential—due to the fulfillment of its obligations under such treaties as START I, as well as because of the lack of funds even for maintaining what it has now. The United States also did so to some extent, having preserved, however, the main qualitative and quantitative characteristics of its nuclear potential. However, the process of perfecting nuclear weapons in other countries, alas, still continues, although with varying intensity. European countries, for instance, have somewhat moderated their appetites.

The vertical process, according to Lukin, is rather slow and is accompanied by qualitative improvement of weapons, which may provoke some increasingly powerful countries, like India, to say: First, fulfill your disarmament programs, and then demand that we do the same. China, for instance, also acts in the same way, saying that it will commence nuclear disarmament when the United States and Russia have done so by 90 percent.

All of this creates the backdrop against which the motivation to oppose nuclear disarmament is developing. Nevertheless, Lukin believes that, if the five nuclear states unite their efforts in that area, there is a realistic possibility that nuclear proliferation can be stopped. In this case, in his opinion, more and more countries will be joining the open-ended treaty.

Among measures which the great powers might use, Lukin mentioned "counterproliferation." This term, in his understanding, includes the creation of specific mechanisms and forces aimed at preventive parrying of any attempts to build up nuclear potential. The United States is very actively working now on planning various options for military intervention, if the problem of nuclear non-proliferation cannot be solved by other means. Some experience on the use of such actions has been already gained in the world.

Lukin believes that it is essential to avoid double standards as regards putting pressure on some countries, which—by general opinion or by the available data, including intelligence information—indeed are "near-nuclear or postnuclear." As an example, he mentioned the situation with the agreement between the United States and the DPRK, on the one hand, and the growing, in his words, "pressure" which the United States is exerting on Russia in connection with its supply of nuclear reactors to Iran, on the other. The United States is concluding an agreement with the DPRK to replace a reactor, which is suspected of being dangerous in terms of nuclear proliferation since it could have been used to produce plutonium—the material needed to create a nuclear bomb, with a light water reactor. Therefore, it has been admitted that the latter is safe from that viewpoint. Meanwhile, the United States is doing everything it can to prevent Russia from supplying these light water reactors—on which the North Korean side is insisting; instead, everything is being done in order that they should be supplied by South Korea, with U.S. assistance and some purely symbolic and rather indeterminate participation by Russia.

At the same time, pressure is being put on Russia to make it cancel the contract—concluded long ago, not by Russia, but by the USSR—on the supply to Iran of the same sort of light water reactor, which Russia is obliged to fulfill as the Soviet Union's successor.

Lukin believes that equitable—not political, but purely technological—criteria must be developed which would probably supplement and improve those that are presently used by the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA]. If they are developed, it would be quite possible to start serious talks between the five countries—possibly, first, between Russia and NATO, but with Russia's active and equitable participation [as published]—on the development of a mechanism for political parrying, and possibly not only political parrying, of those actions which violate international stability by creating a local nuclear potential.

These could be measures on the joint development of a tactical antiballistic missile (ABM) defense system. In Lukin's opinion, the Americans have started to "maneuver" in the reactivated dialogue on ABM problems—probably in order to show Russia that they can exert pressure on it. Quite possibly, this may be due to the fact that the American military-industrial complex is finalizing certain research, and it is beginning to press the government which has to react in some way. In any case, the negotiations on tactical ABM systems have been rather fruitless. And the Americans are rather reluctant to accept the Russian proposal on delimiting tactical and strategic ABM systems.

As is known, strategic ABM systems are banned by the corresponding treaty, and there have been no problems in that respect so far, whereas tactical ABM systems are a subject for discussion. "I would suggest that the foreign ministries of the five states think of developing common criteria for ABM systems as a guarantee against some crazy actions. Such an ABM system would not necessarily be used to protect only these five states, but it would be developed by them," Vladimir Lukin said.

The Duma committee head also believes that it is necessary to elaborate measures "for a worst-case scenario," when in some country the process of creating nuclear weapons gets so advanced that it could start to jeopardize international or regional security, and when this fact is generally accepted. Lukin proposes to extend the activities of peacekeeping forces to this scenario as well. At the same time, he is for tightening up the IAEA regime.

### Disarmament 'Expert' on Results of ABM Limitation Talks

*LD1104113795 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1046 GMT 11 Apr 95*

[By ITAR-TASS correspodent Anatoliy Yurkin]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow April 11 TASS—The results of Russian-American talks on the limitation of anti-ballistic-missile [ABM] systems for theatre of operations should meet the national interests of Russia, Pavel Podvig, an expert from the Centre for the Study of Problems of Disarmament, Energy and Ecology, told ITAR-TASS in an exclusive interview today. According to Podvig, reports, that appeared in the Western press, saying that senior officials of the Clinton administration are going to consider a possibility of giving up the concessions, made by the United States at the talks with Russia on specifying provisions of the ABM treaty, are evoking some concern.

As one of possible steps, it was suggested to remove from discussion the proposal, put forward at the talks, on the setting of speed limits for interceptor missiles. The Russian expert believes it was not accidental that Russia put forward this proposal. It helps to draw a dividing line between regional systems, which are permitted by the ABM treaty, and the strategic ones, banned by it.

In his opinion, the preservation of the ABM treaty is more important for Russia, than the development of the ABM system for theatre of operations, on which the U.S. side insists. Podvig believes the Russian stand is not only the result of the limited possibilities of our country in developing its own ABM systems for theatre of operationss. If Russia accepts the U.S. conceptual framework, this will actually mean that it agrees to the creation in the U.S. of the weapon systems that can be used for waging so-called "star wars", which are again becoming popular across the ocean.

## Foreign Ministry To Coordinate Expanded Arms Exports

*MK1304090195 Moscow KOMMERSANT-DAILY in Russian 13 Apr 95 p 1*

[Report by Aleksandr Koretskiy report: "A Closed Conference With an Open Finale"]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Russia's policy in the sphere of arms exports will change in the near future. It will become more effective and will take the "factor of current international stability" into account. This was announced by a Ministry of Foreign Affairs spokesman at the end of a conference of heads of key departments involved in arms exports. The meeting was absolutely closed; it was only reported that "concrete decisions have been made." KOMMERSANT-DAILY's experts believe that these decisions may bear on arms exports to specific countries. It is not ruled out that the list of weapons available for export will also change.

The conference was chaired by Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev, who made Boris Yeltsin's opinion on arms export known to leaders of the Defense Ministry, the State Committee on Military-Technical Policy, the State Committee for the Defense Sectors of Industry, and the Foreign Intelligence Service. The promptness with which information about the conference was made available is noteworthy: Its participants had not yet left when the Ministry of Foreign Affairs stated that the conference had been held. By contrast, in the past such events were not reported until weeks later, if at all. In this context it can be assumed that the conference was aimed not only at resolving concrete internal Russian problems in the sphere of arms export, but that it was also meant to produce an external effect: to show the West that Moscow has its hand firmly on the sightly accelerated pulse of state arms export in general and on its specific representatives in particular. And it is critical to show this now: In recent months there have been accusations almost every week that Russia has made illegal—from the point of view of international law—arms deals. [passage omitted]

The list of weapons available for export may well change. It may grow. The fact is that a provision, introduced in the early 70's, prohibiting the export of the newest models of weapons, is still in effect in Russia: Weapons may be exported only after they have been tested within the country for five to six years. All producers of complex combat hardware are pressing for the abolition of this "tradition," believing, not without reason, that this will make possible a noticeable strengthening of Russia's positions on the world arms market.

Incidentally, analogous norms which existed in the United States were substantially liberalized in late 1994. Therefore the president could well have asked the corresponding Russian departments to make the "necessary" corrections in the list of arms available for export. Why was such an uncharacteristic task entrusted to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs? The reason apparently lies in the president's recent edicts on the role and place of the foreign policy department in shaping Russia's foreign policy: It was stressed that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs should become its main coordinator, actively working with other departments concerned. As to what "specific decisions" were made at the conference, this will become known soon: From the actions of Russian arms exporters on the world market.

## Kozyrev 'Enjoys' Talks in Rome, Counts on More Support

*MK1404130395 Moscow SEGODNYA in Russian 14 Apr 95 p 2*

[Report by Irina Grudinina from Rome in the "Results" column: "Rome Recommends No Hurry With NATO Expansion. Russian Diplomats Were Pleased With the Italians"]

[FBIS Translated Text] The Russian foreign minister yesterday ended his working visit to Italy, in the course of which he met with republic President Luigi Scalfaro, Foreign Minister Susanna Agnelli, and Prime Minister Lamberto Dini. The Russian side is quite pleased with the Rome negotiations. Although the Italians raised a number of questions which Kozyrev had not planned to discuss, they did it, according to one delegation member, in an extremely tactful manner.

These delicate matters include, in particular, the subject of Chechnya. Andrey Kozyrev offered a very blunt comment on the law on a political settlement in Chechnya, adopted by the Duma, and stated that had he been in Moscow, he would have voted against it. The problem of rescheduling Russia's debt to Italy has still not been resolved. Promises on this count were given last October by ex- Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi, but it was only a verbal statement which has not been followed up by any practical steps. Things are moving slowly for a well-known reason: the absence of the legal groundwork for investments. In any event, diplomats believe that this is not so much the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs as the Finance Ministry.

Questions of military-technical cooperation were the most mysterious point on the agenda. The traditional eloquence of Russian diplomats immediately gave way to dead silence the moment this subject was broached. It transpired, however, that the military industrial complex's high tech projects are precisely the branch where Italian business would willingly invest.

The discussion of international problems apparently revealed no serious disagreements. According to a diplomat accompanying Kozyrev, Italy has done much to ensure Russia's participation in the "Big Seven." Moscow is also counting on Rome's support in Halifax. At any rate, Kozyrev is already calling the "seven" the "eight." Statements by Italian Minister Susanna Agnelli about NATO expansion caressed the Russian diplomats' ears. Italy, Ms. Agnelli said, believes that there should be no haste on this issue: It is necessary to "have a pause for meditation." Considering the emerging proximity between the Russian and Italian positions, the sides agreed to set up a working group to compare their opinions about a future European security system.

The Russian minister liked the talks with Italian officials so much that he took a rather well-disposed attitude to the issue of General Perelyakin's resignation. Andrey Kozyrev did not seek to justify the general but expressed the hope that UN peacekeeping operations will not be affected by the incident.

## Kozyrev Cited on Rome Talks, NATO, Elections

*MM1704090395 Moscow TRUD in Russian 15 Apr 95 p 3*

[Interview with Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev by Pavel Negoitsa in Rome; date not given: "Andrey Kozyrev: 'Russia's Interests Are the Main Thing.' Russian Foreign Minister Answers TRUD Correspondent's Questions"—first paragraph is introduction]

[FBIS Translated Text] Piazza Colonna. The mighty column of Marcus Aurelius rises aloft at the center of the square. Scenes of battles with the Sarmatians and the Marcomanni, with whom the Roman emperor fought, are inscribed on the spiral bas relief. Several Russian journalists clustered near this column around Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev as soon as he left Palazzo Chigi at the end of his meeting with Italian Prime Minister Lamberto Dini. During the conversation we kind of took off from the Italian "pedestal" and traveled in a spiral around big-league world politics and the role that Russia plays in them. Here is the first question that the minister was asked.

[Negoitsa] How do you assess the results of your talks in Rome?

[Kozyrev] First, they were very timely. Italy has a new government, with which we have not as yet had any contacts, and we wanted to establish contacts. The continuity of the traditional warm, friendly relations between Russia and Italy was confirmed. We discussed matters of mutual interest. For instance, the preparations for the meeting in Halifax. As a member of the G-7 and the political "eight" Italy supports Russia's stage-by-stage and more active inclusion in the discussion of global economic as well as political issues at the meeting in Canada.

Second, and it is important to underline this point, the Italian president, prime minister, and foreign minister view with understanding our stance on the question of the inadmissibility and undesirability of hasty actions when it comes to expanding NATO. I think that this is evidence of Italy's balanced and pragmatic approach, which places the emphasis on partnership rather than on the expansion of the bloc. Italy also has a well-considered position on the Yugoslav problem. It is a pity that it is not a member of the Contact Group. But as a nonpermanent member of the UN Security Council Italy injects a pragmatic note into the Council's work in the Yugoslav area.

[Negoitsa] You stress the need for a "pause for thought" on the question of expanding NATO. How long should that "pause" last, in your opinion?

[Kozyrev] As long as it takes. We reached an accord on partnership as an autonomous program to make it possible to close the gap in the military and political spheres and enable us to calmly seek an answer to the question of what shape common European security should take, security not divided by blocs. This is the autonomous program of which President Clinton spoke and to which we agreed. Therefore the pause will last as long as it takes to implement the Partnership program. We are ready for that. And talk of hastily expanding NATO effectively blocks the Partnership program. It is like in the mountains when someone comes and starts shouting: Rocks start flying and a landslide begins. In my view, if there were more partnership in formulating the new model for security, everyone would stand to gain. NATO, Russia, and Eastern Europe. I am delighted that Italy—a NATO country—also considers this pause essential. It is not a question of sitting down and doing nothing. It should be a pause for partnership. If talk about the hasty expansion of NATO were to stop now and the emphasis were once again placed, as we agreed, on cooperation, we would get the "Partnership" program off the ground.

[Negoitsa] Were problems of Russian-Italian economic cooperation touched on?

[Kozyrev] Yes. Because a few days ago the Italian prime minister was elected chairman of the Board of Governors of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development [EBRD]. This bank is investing $2 billion in 20 specific Russian projects. The same number of large-scale projects are at the discussion stage. It is important that we were able to discuss in a timely fashion how to continue building on the EBRD's cooperation with Russia.

To sum up the results of my meetings in Rome, I can say the following: After discussing bilateral, European, and global issues, we took stock of our positions and saw that Italy remains one of Russia's major and, I would say, most reliable partners

[Negoitsa] Could you say a few words about the upcoming May celebrations in Moscow. A virtually worldwide forum of heads of state and government will be meeting there....

[Kozyrev] This reflects the Soviet Union's crucial role in the defeat of fascism. We expect respect to be paid to the victors. But we do not in the least want these celebrations to be geared just to the past; they must also address the future. They should remind us who our true allies were in our people's most decisive struggle, namely the United States, Britain, and France, i.e. the so-called Western countries. We want them to be our partners now too and our allies in the future.

[Negoitsa] When asked about the charges against him regarding his overly pro-Western and insufficiently patriotic policy Andrey Kozyrev said the following:

[Kozyrev] I can say this. You should probably ask any ordinary Russian citizen, any Russian voter whether they want the quality and standard of living that exists in precisely those states with whom we want to have good relations. Whether we want to be members of the "eight"—one of the world's most developed and influential states? The answer (and I know this from my own election campaign in Murmansk, for instance) is an unequivocal one: "Yes." In that context I am, if you like, pro-Western and will remain so. I want Russia to take her place among the most developed, democratic, free, and economically prosperous states.

At the same time I have never had and do not now have any problems in voicing my disagreement with specific policies pursued by Western states. Once again not in order to arouse controversy or to show that I can mouth off obscenities—you do not need great intelligence for that—but in order to uphold my viewpoint and the interests of the country. We do not want to be seen as a "younger brother," we do not want unequal relations. Here is a concrete example for you: We have said a firm "no" to the expansion of NATO and a firm "yes" to partnership. But there are people in Russia who are even prepared to say "no" to partnership. On what grounds? Why should we not cooperate with NATO? What will this do for us? Murmansk Oblast's neighbor—Norway—is a member of NATO. Russia has splendid relations with it. We are now implementing 70 economic projects. Our naval seamen, who are, incidentally, also my voters, are conducting joint exercises with the Norwegians. What is bad in that? Take Italy, who is also a member of NATO. Look how much common business and how many elements for cooperation we have. So, let people consider my position what they will—pro-Western or anti-Western. I am convinced that we are implementing a policy based on pragmatic, calm, Russian interest. You can see how it is our interest and how essential it is for us to cooperate without any reference to ideology. And we are quite blunt and articulate about things we do not like.

[Negoitsa] How do you see the upcoming elections? Will you yourself be taking part in them?

[Kozyrev] I predict that it will not be a party but a movement of professionals united by the national idea that will consolidate its position. Not the chauvinist, national-patriotic idea but a sound national idea in the good sense of the word, one that is open to the world outside. I think that now—and by the elections this will be increasingly clear to most Russian citizens—the president is the custodian of this unifying idea. But I see no such party. Therefore if I take part in the elections, it will not be within a party framework but solely on an individual basis.

## Kozyrev Backs Call To Lift Sanctions Against Yugoslavia

*LD1504134995 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1300 GMT 15 Apr 95*

[By ITAR-TASS special correspondents Dmitriy Gorokhov, Yuriy Malinov, Vladimir Malyshev]

[FBIS Translated Text] Athens, 15 Apr—Russian Federation Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev, on a brief working visit here, described the State Duma's decision calling on the government to step up efforts in the United Nations Security Council and the "Contact Group" with the aim of lifting sanctions against Yugoslavia as a step in the right direction. He stressed that it was not a matter of breaking sanctions regulations unilaterally, as was, unfortunately, the case in some parliaments, but of lawful steps.

"We are in any case undertaking these efforts extremely actively," he said. "The Duma decision goes in the right direction and will further help the Russian government and diplomats in their work."

Andrey Kozyrev noted that Russia took a positive view of the statement of the group of foreign ministers of the states hit hardest by sanctions against Yugoslavia which was signed in the lobby of the meeting of heads of foreign policy departments of the member-countries of the Black Sea economic cooperation zone on 14 April. Russia, whose costs are truly enormous, is one of these states.

According to him, Russia has for about a year now been attempting to get the Security Council to follow its own decisions instead of additional situational requirements good as they might be. At the same time, decisions must be rooted in international law. Thus the State Duma's decision says that the Union Republic of Yugoslavia has fulfilled the requirements of the UN resolutions in accordance with which sanctions were imposed upon it in so far as Yugoslavia has backed the "Contact Group's" proposals for Bosnia and Herzegovina and closed its border with Bosnia and is therefore no longer a party to the conflict, the minister stressed.

### Kozyrev, Greek Foreign Minister on Yugoslav Sanctions

*LD1504162695 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1458 GMT 15 Apr 95*

[By ITAR-TASS special correspondents Dmitriy Gorokhov, Yuriy Malinov, Vladimir Malyshev]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Athens, 15 Apr—[Passage omitted: repeat of referent item] A major role in the adoption of these radical decisions was played by Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic with whom Greek Foreign Minister Karolos Papoulias and I have frequently held conversations, the Russian foreign minister said. I hope that the president has listened to the friendly advice of both Russia and Greece. As for the UN Security Council then, unfortunately, it has still to make an appropriate response to these steps by actually lifting economic sanctions, or at least suspending them. And it is no surprise that in such conditions as these the Bosnian peace process is today under threat because while the new, positive Yugoslavia can contribute to the process, it continues to be subjected to tough sanctions and is for some reason viewed as the main culprit instead of a partner.

A serious policy, Andrey Kozyrev said, differs from moralizing in that it judges by deeds: When they backed militant groups in Bosnia sanctions were imposed—now that they back the peace plan sanctions should be lifted. Otherwise there will be no way out of this blind alley.

Greek Foreign Minister Karolos Papoulias said that the important document adopted in the lobby of the Black Sea economic cooperation zone meeting, which raises the matter of the great damage to neighboring states done by sanctions against Serbia and Montenegro with the UN Security Council, was a Greco-Bulgarian initiative that Romania, Moldova, and Ukraine had signed along with Greece and Bulgaria. Russia backed the initiative that was based on the fact that the region's countries were suffering from the sanctions against the Union Republic of Yugoslavia more than anyone else. If the restrictive measures were not abolished, a vicious circle might develop that will only result in the deterioration of the crisis on the territory of the former Yugoslavia and the intensification of the problems of the region's countries, the Greek minister stressed.

### Kozyrev Departs Athens for Moscow

*LD1504160295 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1532 GMT 15 Apr 95*

[FBIS Translated Text] Athens, 15 Apr, ITAR-TASS—Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev, who was here on a brief working visit, left today for home. He also attended the conference of foreign ministers of the member-states of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Zone that was held here.

### 'Dirty Games' Suspected Against Russian Units in Bosnia

*LD1404213095 Moscow Russian Public Television First Channel Network in Russian 1700 GMT 14 Apr 95*

[FBIS Translated Text] Interfax has reported that the other day a Ukrainian observation post was fired on in the area of the Bihac enclave in Bosnia. Fortunately, none of the Ukrainian servicemen were hurt. The personnel were evacuated to a safe place. At the same time the main Russian battalion of the peace-keeping forces in the former Yugoslavia has again found itself in a serious situation. Russian Major General Aleksey Perelyakin, commander of the eastern sector, has been removed from his position by a decision taken by the command of the UN forces. He is being accused of disciplinary offenses within the Russian contingent and of losing control over his subordinates. Our correspondent reports:

[Solovyev] This decision, which was taken 24 hours before Maj. Gen. Perelyakin's official mandate was due to expire, violates all the basic service regulations of the UN forces. It was not agreed with the national i.e. Russian military command. The motives for removing the general from his position were given to him only in a verbal form. The accusations were not backed up by facts.

[Begin Perelyakin recording] As for the accusations made against me personally, I completely and categorically deny them. At the same time the political significance of the decision is completely clear to me—it is to discredit the Russian Federation's peacekeeping forces on the territory of the former Yugoslavia. [end recording]

[Solovyev] Diplomats and the military will sort out who is right and who should be blamed for the situation but the dirty games that have been going on around the Russian battalion for some time now make one think that someone is trying hard to create a situation where only the servicemen of NATO countries remain in the peacekeeping contingent in the Serbian Krajina.

Following yesterday's fateful decision, a group of Western officers who have served a year together with Maj. Gen. Perelyakin in eastern Slavonia and who disagreed with the decision of the UN command presented a gift—a depiction of a peacekeeping soldier—to the Russian general as a gesture of respect.

### General Rules Out Possibility of Sarin Gas Proliferation

*OW1204111695 Tokyo MAINICHI SHIMBUN in Japanese 10 April 95 Morning Edition p 7*

[By reporter Kazutaka Iijima]

[FBIS Translated Text] Moscow, 8 Apr—On 8 April Major General Viktor Khorstov [name as published] (age 47), deputy commander of the Russian Army's Radiation, Chemical, and Biological Defense Troops, granted an interview to MAINICHI SHIMBUN and made disclosures on such matters as chemical weapons possessed by Russia. Regarding the Tokyo subway sarin gas incident, the Russian general said: "Proliferation of sarin gas from Russia is impossible."

According to Khorstov, Russia currently possesses 40,000 tons of chemical weapons, of which 80 percent is sarin and other poisonous organic phosphate gases. Approximately 6,000 tons of sarin gas is in storage. Chemical weapons are stored at seven storage sites. Khorstov disclosed that ever since the days of the former Soviet Union, chemical weapons have been produced and stored in Russia, and no other former Soviet state other than Russia possesses chemical weapons.

Under the treaty banning chemical weapons, countries are required to destroy such weapons. Khorstov said: "Because we do not have the necessary facilities, operations to destroy chemical weapons are currently suspended. It is necessary to build such facilities promptly."

In reference to the Tokyo subway sarin gas incident, Khorstov said: "Production of sarin gas was discontinued in 1987, and the gas is stored in storage facilities under strict military security. No individual, other than those in the military, can get near these facilities, and no one can break in." The general thus ruled out any possibility of sarin gas actually being removed from the storage facilities. Regarding the technology necessary to produce sarin gas, Khorstov said: "Japanese chemical technology has developed considerably, so it is probably not necessary to go through the trouble to obtain sarin production technology from Russia. Even if the technology was available, it would not be easy to produce sarin gas because special equipment would be necessary." However, the general admitted that military-related individuals may sell such technology to foreigners. He refrained from ruling out the possibility of technology drain, saying: "It is for this reason that we are striving to prevent the proliferation of chemical weapons."

Regarding reports that some members of the Radiation, Chemical, and Biological Defense Troops are Aum Shinrikyo followers, Khorstov said: "Although I cannot provide an answer to such a question unless I have concrete evidence, that is inconceivable." He criticized mass media reports, saying: "There seems to be considerable reportage trying to link the incident to Russia, but there has been absolutely no concrete evidence. We cannot understand why Russia must be under such criticism." (endall) 10 apr gh/macdonald bm121204.001 su 12/1116

## Commentary on Suspension of U.S.-DPRK Reactor Talks

*SK1504113595 Moscow Voice of Russia World Service in Korean 1200 GMT 14 Apr 95*

[Commentary by Aleksey Kondratyev from the "Today's World" program]

[FBIS Translated Text] The DPRK-U.S. talks held in Berlin to discuss the replacement of graphite reactors adjourned again.

Station commentator Aleksey Kondratyev remarks as follows: The first round of talks had been suspended at the end of March. Washington-Pyongyang dialogue, which resumed last Thursday, was again suspended. The reason for this has not changed: The DPRK will not accept ROK-model reactors. Pyongyang maintained that if the United States continues to press the DPRK to accept ROK-model light-water reactors, it will initiate preparations to resume the operation of reactors at Yongbyon on 21 April. In other words, the DPRK-U.S. agreed framework that was signed last year is on the verge of rupture. In accordance with the agreement, Pyongyang should replace graphite reactors with light-water reactors.

Pyongyang has repeatedly expressed its intention to accept Russian-model or U.S.-model reactors. However, the United States, the ROK, and Japan continue to insist upon ROK-model light-water reactors. Washington threatened that it will seek sanctions against the DPRK through the United Nations if the DPRK resumes the operation of graphite reactors in Yongbyon. Basically, the recent talks between the U.S. and DPRK delegations reached a deadlock, aggravating the nuclear crisis on the Korean peninsula.

The tension is already heightening on the Korean peninsula. For instance, Yun Tong-min, so-called professor of the International Relations and National Security Institute in South Korea, even said that Pyongyang possesses enough military-purpose plutonium to manufacture two nuclear warheads. Other countries' experts, including Russia's, do not agree with such a statement. Regardless, new denunciations of the DPRK and the artificial suspension of DPRK- U.S. negotiations will only escalate tension in this region.

The DPRK-U.S. talks will reportedly begin in Berlin on 18 April.

## Normalization Could 'Wither' Unless PRC Acts on Intruders

*MM1404160995 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 14 Apr 95 p 3*

[Report by Vladimir Skosyrev: "Good-Neighborliness Does Not Abolish Borders"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Beijing— Although the Chinese media are silent on the subject, official sources in Beijing have confirmed that a serious incident did indeed occur on the Chinese-Russian border. But they are reporting no details whatsoever, citing the absence of reliable information at present.

The Russian Embassy in the PRC has still received no information through official channels.

Be that as it may, the murder of a Russian officer by Chinese poachers does call the situation on the border into question. This incident, which was preceded by many other cases of Chinese poachers penetrating our territory, would seem to refute completely PRC Foreign Minister Qian Qichen's statement that the situation on the border has never been so favorable since 1949.

The paradox is that, at the official level, relations between the two sides really are developing successfully. Regular contacts are maintained between border troop subunits and military units stationed in the border regions. An agreement to construct a bridge over the Amur River has been concluded. And indeed the number of tourists and traders crossing the border is on the increase. Even the fact that the Russian side is to blame for delay in the work of demarcating the border in Maritime Kray has failed to mar the atmosphere.

However, the fruits of good-neighborliness and the normalization of interstate relations could wither if Beijing does not take prompt measures to stop the illegal penetration of Russian territory by Chinese citizens—in the guise of hunters or tourists.

## China Admits to Border Violation, Ready To Investigate

*LD1704075395 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0744 GMT 17 Apr 95*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Larisa Beloyvan]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Vladivostok April 17 TASS—The Chinese side has admitted the fact of the Sino-Russian border violation by Chinese citizens, as well as that the transgressors had penetrated into the Russian territory with the intention of poaching and had used arms against a Russian boarder guard patrol.

ITAR-TASS was told today in the Russian Pacific Ocean border district administration that on the Chinese border guard representative's request, they were handed over a knapsack and a rifle belonging to one of the border violators as material evidences. According to the Chinese officer, the material evidences will help make the task of the criminals' search easier.

A meeting between border representatives of the two sides held on the border was follwed by a statement, admitting that the "participants in the incident were citizens of China. Their identity will be established as soon as possible and they will be put on trial by a court of law".

At the meeting, the Chinese officials also expressed their readiness to investigate the incident on the Far East border, where violators from China had killed Captain Sergey Dashuk, the chief of the border outpost "Shkolnaya" on April 12.

On that day a border guard patrol under captain Sergey Dashuk's command, as well as Lt. Kalashnikov and Sergeant Kadrak had uncovered three border violators armed with rifles three kilometres from the border line. The violators disobeyed order to halt and attempted to run away. Sergeant Kadrak managed to catch hold one of them, wounding him in the foot by an automatic gun shot. Captain Sergey Dashuk was shot dead as a result of two shots fired into his head and chest. Taking advantage of the preplexity of the Russian guards, who discovered the slain captain, the violators managed to retreat and hide themselves, taking the wounded with them.

The military prosecutor's office of the Pacific frontier guard district instituted a criminal case according to the fact of premeditated murder under aggravating circumstances, theft of arm (service revolver of the killed captain), as well as unlawfully crossing the state border.

## Scandal Over IZVESTIYA Article on Sale of Subs to PRC

*LD1704095095*

[FBIS Editorial Report] Moscow NTV in Russian 1500 GMT on 16 April broadcasts a 2-minute report by correspondent Irina Preobrazhenskaya, who reports for the Segodnya program from Nizhniy Novogorod, where she says a scandal has arisen over the sale of submarines to China.

The Krasnoye Sormovo joint stock company built two submarines for sale to China. The first was delivered in February 1995, while work on the second has just been completed, Preobrazhenskaya says. The correspondent adds that the scandal began when IZVESTIYA published an article revealing both the details of the contract and the submarine's parameters. Representatives of the Chinese Navy sent a protest note to the Russian Foreign Ministry, complaining that the company had breached commercial confidentiality, Preobrazhenskaya reports.

She says that in response, Krasnoye Sormovo is bringing a case against IZVESTIYA. Nikolay Zharkov, captioned as Krasnoye Sormovo's general director, says that details about output should be protected. For their part the authors of the article say they did not publish secret information but took the details from a Krasnoye Sormovo advertising prospectus, which they obtained at an exhibition abroad, according to Preobrazhenskaya.

The Krasnoye Sormovo administration has set up a special commission, including representatives of the Federal Security Service, to investigate the affair.

"If a breach of commercial and strategic secrets is proven, then the Chinese side may annul the contract," Preobrazhenskaya says in conclusion. [Video shows submarine being built and launched at Krasnoye Sormovo's works, and still shots of offending IZVESTIYA article]

## More on FPS Chief Briefing on Tajik-Afghan Border Fighting

*MM1404112995 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 14 Apr 95 p 3*

[Report by Vitaliy Strugovets: Fighting on Border Continues. Armed Opposition Doing Everything To Wreck Inter-Tajik Dialogue"]

[FBIS Translated Text] "We knew about the implacable opposition's plans to step up hostilities on the Tajik-Afghan border in the spring and summer of this year," FPS [Federal Border Service] Director Colonel General Andrey Nikolayev stated at a meeting with journalists held 12 April at the Russian Federation Border Service Main Command. "And our knowledge did not just come from operational information. The actual atmosphere on the border gave daily reminders."

Since 20 October 1994—the day the "Agreement on a Temporary Cease-Fire and Cessation of Other Hostile Actions on the Tajik- Afghan Border and Within the Country" came into force—we have recorded more than 60 successful and attempted incursions across the border and more than 40 instances of border posts and detachments coming under fire. In 1995 alone 44 border guards have been killed and 95 wounded as a resulted of combat clashes.

The opposition recently launched a massive "attack" on the group of Russian border guards in Tajikistan on the diplomatic "front" too. The border guards have been accused of wrecking the cease-fire agreement, and there have been politically-motivated demands for their withdrawal from the republic's territory. Rejecting claims that the Russian border guards are having any influence on the fueling of the inter-Tajik conflict, Colonel General Nikolayev stressed that they are protecting the southern borders of the CIS, and this is laid down in a whole package of agreements.

Incidentally, the Russian Federation Border Guards Command informed the heads of CIS states of a possible exacerbation of the situation on the Tajik-Afghan border back at the end of last year. In accordance with decisions adopted at that time, the contingent of border guards was increased, new border posts were established, and other measures were taken. It is largely thanks to this, the FPS director stressed, that it has proved possible to avoid big losses.

Nevertheless, Andrey Nikolayev acknowledged, some groups of gunmen have already dug in on the territory of Tajikistan's Kalai- Khumbskiy and Vanchskiy Rayons. They are seeking to create there a base to join forces with Gornyy Badakhshan opposition detachments in order to subsequently continue to move toward the Garm group of rayons, where, according to FPS data, approaching 4,000 opposition gunmen are concentrated.

Events could develop in either of two ways, Colonel General Nikolayev believes. A sharp intensification of hostilities, as demanded by Islamic Rebirth Movement of Afghanistan Leader Said Abdollah Nuri, who recently ordered the destruction of all border posts in the Badakhshan sector. Or minor clashes on various sectors of the border and a show of attempting to return to the negotiating table. But what would be preferable, of course, is just talks, without any overtones.

Meanwhile, as the FPS information agency reports, in the course of 12 April the situation on the Tajik-Afghan border remained tense. There was continuing fighting at the no. 1 border post of the Khorog Border Detachment, which gunmen are attacking with firearms, mortars, and recoilless guns with various degrees of intensity. Retaliatory fire destroyed one of the gunmen's mortar positions. One border guard was fatally wounded.

Border guard helicopters and International Peacekeeping Contingent aircraft made missile and bomb strikes on a concentration of gunmen and their exposed firing positions.

## Yeltsin Sends Condolences Over Deaths of Border Guards

*LD1504101295 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0936 GMT 15 Apr 95*

[BY ITAR-TASS observer Tamara Zamyatina]

[FBIS Translated Text] Moscow, 15 Apr—"There is only one solution to the problems of Tajikistan—a peaceful one." This opinion was expressed today in an interview with Russian President Boris Yeltsin by an ITAR-TASS observer. He expressed profound condolences in connection with the death of the Russian border guards and their comrades from other CIS countries who were carrying out, he said, a very important task for the Commonwealth; they were helping to preserve peace and stability in Tajikistan.

The president and the Governments of Tajikistan, Russia, the CIS countries, and the whole of the world community are in favor of a peaceful solution to the Tajik problem, the head of the Russian state stressed. We have been rendering and will continue to render support for a peaceful outcome to the crisis and to step up coordination with international organizations for this purpose, the Russian president said.

Yeltsin recalled that Russia, together with the other CIS countries, is defending in Tajikistan the Commonwealth's common southern borders. The current situation on the border, in his opinion, should "be discussed as soon as possible at a joint meeting of the foreign and defense ministers and commanders of the border troops of the CIS countries in order to work out additional collective measures to stabilize the situation." It is also necessary to render technical and military assistance to the Republic of Tajikistan, Yeltsin pointed out.

### Russia Said To Keep Military Bases in Turkmenistan

*MM1104110195 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 11 Apr 95 p 1*

[Unattributed report from the "In the Corridors of Power" column under "Talks" rubric: "Russia To Keep Its Military Bases in Turkmenistan"]

[FBIS Translated Text] During talks between Russian and Turkmen government delegations it was preliminarily agreed that Russian military facilities will remain on Turkmen territory and their personnel will be provided with social guarantees appropriate to their status as Russian Federation servicemen. A preliminary understanding was reached that at least one Russian Air Defense aviation squadron will be based in Turkmenistan. A more detailed agreement on military cooperation between the two countries will evidently be signed during the upcoming meeting between Boris Yeltsin and Saparmurad Niyazov.

### Turkmenistan Agreement Ended by 'Mutual Consent'

*LD1404063295 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0553 GMT 14 Apr 95*

[FBIS Translated Text] Moscow, 14 Apr—President Yeltsin has decided to inform the leaders of Turkmenistan that "the Russian side does not intend to ratify the treaty between the Russian Federation and Turkmenistan on joint actions in connection with the setting up of Turkmenistan's armed forces, which was signed on 31 July 1992," the press service of the Russian head of state reported today.

Russia is also terminating the agreement on the legal status and conditions of stay of the Russian Federation air defense troops and air forces on the territory of Turkmenistan, by mutual consent.

### Lebed: Duma Unlikely To Ratify 14th Army Agreement in 1995

*LD1404141595 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1338 GMT 14 Apr 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Chisinau April 14 TASS - The Russian-Moldovan agreement on withdrawal of the Russian 14th Army from the Transdniester is not likely to be ratified by the Russian State Duma this year, believes 14th Army Commander General Aleksandr Lebed.

"There are two good reasons for this," Lebed told ITAR-TASS. "Firstly, one should answer the question of money when approving the army withdrawal. Secondly, politicians will hardly raise the unpopular withdrawal issue on the eve of parliamentary elections for fear of losing votes."

Lebed refuted reports of some mass media bodies claiming the recent statement of Federation Council Chairman Vladimir Shumeyko on the need to start the withdrawal of troops and armaments from the Transdniester region resulted in agitation of the army servicemen. At the same time, he said that the Army had meetings of servicemen that resulted in a common statement of the army personnel. The statement "does not conceal disappointment with the pronouncements of the federation council speaker which, in the opinion of officers and soldiers, stirred up emotions of the local population and created prerequisites for seizure of army property." The statement reminds that "over 10,000 servicemen of the 14th Army are Russian citizens who must be accommodated in their motherland."

### Yeltsin Links Ukrainian Relations to Future of Crimea

*LD1504101595 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0951 GMT 15 Apr 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow April 15 TASS—"It will be correct to sign major political documents between Russia and Ukraine when we are convinced that relations between Simferopol and Kiev develop without damage to the interests of Crimeans and meet internationally recognised standards of human rights," said on Saturday President Boris Yeltsin, now on vacation in the resort city of Sochi, in an interview with ITAR-TASS, expressing his position on aggravated relations between Ukraine and the Crimea.

Explaining his viewpoint, Yeltsin added: "Russians make up the majority of population of the Crimean Republic, a part of Ukraine. Russia has considerable interests on the peninsula.

"Therefore, we are interested in the destiny of the Crimea. The president and the government strive for removing problems in relations between the authorities of Simferopol and Kiev through a political dialogue, without pressure. The will of Crimeans should be respected. We repeatedly told this to the Ukrainian leadership."

### Kozyrev, Ukrainian Foreign Minister Discuss Sensitive Issues

*LD1504133895 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1118 GMT 15 Apr 95*

[By ITAR-TASS special correspondents Dmitriy Gorokhov, Yuriy Malinov, and Vladimir Malyshev]

[FBIS Translated Text] Athens, 15 Apr—Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev and Ukrainian Foreign Minister Hennadiy Udovenko, who took part here in a meeting of foreign ministers of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Zone, on 14 April had a detailed conversation on the whole set of issues pertaining to Russian-Ukrainian relations. It was frank and businesslike in its character.

Both ministers emphasized their wish to seek constructive solutions in a spirit of good-neighborliness and friendly relations. The ministers did not avoid discussing sensitive issues, and each set out for the other their at times differing viewpoints. At the same time, they particularly stressed the need to prevent relations between their two countries being tested for strength by emotions and extremist manifestations, wheresoever they might arise.

## Black Sea Fleet Exercise Begins Despite 'Problems'

*MM1204134395 Moscow Russian Public Television First Channel Network in Russian 1700 GMT 4 Apr 95*

[From the "Vremya" newscast: Video report on Black Sea Fleet exercises by Vladimir Plotnikov, identified by caption]

[FBIS Translated Text] [Plotnikov over video of naval exercise] Naval exercises opened in the Black Sea today. Taking part are around 30 ships of the Black Sea Fleet based in Crimea, and also naval infantry and aviation. Embarkation and disembarkation of a landing force, missile and artillery fire practice, and rehearsal of other combat tasks is planned. The exercises are taking place under the command of fleet commander Admiral Eduard Baltin.

The fleet press center reports that the naval combat training exercise is proceeding according to plan, despite manning problems and inadequate funding, compounded by the fact that Ukraine has allocated essentially no funds for the maintenance of its part of the fleet. Incidentally, these problems were around last year too. Nonetheless, the Black Sea Fleet won second place in Russia in the assessment of combat training results.

## Political Issues

### Border Service Director on Yeltsin's View of Tajik Issue

*LD1404185795 Moscow Russian Public Television First Channel Network in Russian 1700 GMT 14 Apr 95*

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[FBIS Translated Text] Boris Yeltsin today received Andrey Nikolayev, director of Russia's federal border service. Andrey Nikolayev returned to Moscow from Sochi this evening. Our camera crew met him at the airport.

[Begin Nikolayev recording] In his capacity as chairman of the Commonwealth of Independent States, President Yeltsin has spent two days hearing all the problems linked to the situation on the Tajik- Afghan border. To be frank, the president is very concerned. There are quite active contacts under way via the channels of the Foreign Ministry, through the channels of our service, and through the channels of the Defense Ministry.

The chairman of the CIS Council of Heads of State has given orders for the whole complex of problems linked to the situation which is emerging on the Tajik-Afghan border to be discussed at a meeting of foreign ministers, planned for 20 and 21 April, which will be held in an expanded form. By that I mean that a representative of the Defense Ministry and experts on border protection will be in attendance.

I believe this task can only be carried out in full through a joint effort by these forces. The president of Russia, as chairman of the Council of Heads of State, believes that there is no alternative to a political settlement. His single, principle position on this matter is an immediate cease-fire on the part of the opposition, followed by political dialogue. [end recording]

### Yeltsin: Duma Decision on Russian Public Television 'Hasty'

*LD1504103795 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0953 GMT 15 Apr 95*

[By ITAR-TASS observer Tamara Zamyatin]

[FBIS Translated Text] Moscow, 15 Apr—"Russian Public Television is needed," Russian President Boris Yeltsin, who is in Sochi on holiday, stated in an interview with the ITAR-TASS observer today.

Commenting on the recent decision of the State Duma, which does in actual fact suspend the activity of Russian Public Television —ORT, Boris Yeltsin stressed: "The lower chamber has adopted a draft law—has been very hasty in doing so. We have seen all that. Now the Federation Council must study the draft law carefully and make its proposals."

The head of state noted that the purpose of Russian Public Television will be "to achieve accord in the country, to unite the different forces for the sake of creation, for the sake of the revival of Great Russia." He expressed the hope that "this television would bring joy to Russians by broadcasting good programs."

### Yeltsin Comments on Possible Actions by Opposition on 9 May

*LD1504104395 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1021 GMT 15 Apr 95*

[By ITAR-TASS analyst Tamara Zamyatina]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow April 15 TASS—"Some members of the opposition are not averse to use the anniversary of the victory for provocative ends. This evokes nothing but regret in me and in most Russian people," President Boris Yeltsin, now on vacation in the resort city of Sochi, said in an interview with ITAR-TASS on Saturday.

"May 9 is a sacred day for us and all mankind, and our duty is to mark it in a worthy way. Any speculations are untenable and immoral in this case," the Russian leader stressed.

Asked about rallies and demonstrations alternative to official festivities, Yeltsin noted that "there is nothing bad about them". But he added: "It is important only that these additional marches should not interfere with the planned. That is why legislation establishes rules for staging events of this kind."

The head of state said that "authorities will act in strict conformity with legal norms" with respect to organisers of and participants in alternative events.

### Yeltsin: Election Schedule in Accordance With Constitution

*LD1504111395 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1007 GMT 15 Apr 95*

[By ITAR-TASS observer Tamara Zamyatina]

[FBIS Translated Text] Moscow, 15 Apr—Despite claims made by the opposition about the rescheduling of the deadlines set for the parliamentary and presidential elections being prepared in the Kremlin, Boris Yeltsin stated in an ITAR-TASS interview today:

"In my message to the Federal Assembly, it has been specially stressed that the elections will take place within the period laid down by the Constitution. I have no intention of changing this position."

With regard to the statements on this score made by some opposition leaders, Russia's president believes: "May this remain on their conscience."

In connection with his own participation in the upcoming presidential elections in 1996, Yeltsin repeated that he had not made a final decision. "I think that it is a bit early to speak about this," the head of state remarked.

## 'Text' of Yeltsin Interview on Current Issues

*LD1504155195 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1042 GMT 15 Apr 95*

[FBIS Translated Text] Moscow, 15 Apr—Russia's President Boris Yeltsin gave an interview to ITAR-TASS observer Tamara Zamyatina, the text of which follows:

[Zamyatina] The nationwide celebrations to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Victory are approaching. Numerous foreign guests will take part in the celebrations. Against this background, some opposition figures intend to exploit the Victory anniversary for their political aims, to hold rallies and processions as alternatives to the official celebrations. What can you say about that, what actions might the authorities take toward the organizers of and participants in such events, especially if the events assume an alternative nature?

[Yeltsin] And what are they, these alternative rallies and demonstrations? If you mean ones that are held in addition to the official rallies and demonstrations, then there is nothing bad about them. It is clear that many people would like to celebrate this festival, but not everybody will have the good fortune to take part in the official celebrations. It is important only that these additional marches should not interfere with the planned ones. That is why legislation establishes rules for staging events of this kind.

I know that some members of the opposition are not averse to using the Victory anniversary for purposes of provocation. I, and most Russian people, can only regret this. The date of 9 May is a sacred day for us and for all mankind, and it is our duty to mark it in a worthy manner. It is simply inappropriate and amoral to capitalize on that.

As for measures by the authorities with regard to those organizing and participating in such events, the authorities will adhere strictly to the law.

[Zamyatina] What questions do you intend to discuss with U.S. President Bill Clinton during his official visit to Moscow during the anniversary celebrations? How would you decribe the present state of Russian-American relations and their prospects?

[Yeltsin] First of all, a clarification: Bill Clinton and I will discuss questions of bilateral relations and world politics, not during the celebrations but afterward—B. Clinton will stay in Moscow on 10-11 May.

As always, at issue will be major problems. We will speak about NATO. I will state frankly Russia's ideas on this question so that there is no misunderstanding. We will touch upon questions of disarmament, the nonproliferation of nuclear weapons, and interaction in settling conflicts.

I think it will be useful to assess the development of bilateral relations and to speak of their problems and prospects. We are developing partnership potential and it is developing successfully in many directions. I value good personal relations with President Bill Clinton, and am sure that our conversations with him will produce results, as always.

[Zamyatina] Recently, some opposition leaders have stated that the upcoming parliamentary and presidential elections will not take place according to schedule. What do you think about these claims, and are you preparing to start a pre-election campaign?

[Yeltsin] In my message to the Federal Assembly it has been particularly stressed that the elections will take place within the period laid down by the Constitution. I have no intention of changing this position.

As regards the statements on this score made by some opposition leaders, may this remain on their conscience. In connection with my participation in the upcoming elections, I want to reiterate that I have not yet made a final decision. I think it is a bit early to speak about this.

[Zamyatina] The disagreement in connection with the position of the Ukrainian parliament with regard to Crimea has evoked a sharp reaction in the Russian Parliament. What is your position with regard to this dispute? Will it affect the prospects for a solution to the unresolved problems between Russia and Ukraine and the plans for holding a bilateral summit?

[Yeltsin] The Republic of Crimea is part of Ukraine. Most of the population of Crimea are Russians. Russia has considerable interests in the peninsula. Therefore, the destiny of Crimea is not a matter of indifference to us, and the president and the government are striving to see that the problems in relations between Simferopol and Kiev are settled through political dialogue and without pressure, and that the wishes of Crimea's inhabitants are respected. We have said this to the Ukrainian leadership on many occasions.

As for major political documents, I think it is right to sign them when we are convinced that relations between Simferopol and Kiev are being arranged without any detriment to the interests of Crimea's inhabitants and accord with internationally accepted standards of human rights.

[Zamyatina] The situation on the Tajik-Afghan border has got much worse over the past few days, there are increasing losses among the Russian border guards and servicemen of other CIS countries who are there. How would you describe the present situation in the region? What ways do you see for settling the Tajik problem and what actions could the world community take for that?

[Yeltsin] As president and as a man, I grieve deeply for the fallen Russian border guards and their comrades from other CIS countries. They were carrying out a very important task for the Commonwealth—they were helping to preserve peace and stability in Tajikistan.

I would like to remind you that we are defending our common southern borders along with other member-countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States. We have fundamental accords on agreed actions in this respect. I think there is a point in discussing the current situation on this frontier as soon as possible at a joint session of the foreign and defense ministers and commanders of the border troops of the CIS countries, in order to work out additional collective measures to stabilize the situation. It is also necessary to render technical and military assistance to the Republic of Tajikistan.

There is only one solution to the problems of Tajikistan—a peaceful one. The president and the Government of Tajikistan, Russia, the CIS countries, and the entire world community are in favor of such a decision. We have been rendering and will continue to render support for a peaceful outcome to the crisis and to step up coordination with international organizations for this purpose.

[Zamyatina] The State Duma has just adopted a law on increasing the length of Army service, and on call up into the Armed Forces for graduates. How do you feel about that? Will you sign that law?

[Yeltsin] The length of Army service has been increased for the following reasons:

First—the disastrous shortage of recruits, even taking into consideration the reduction in the Armed Forces.

Second—highly sophisticated military hardware requires highly educated and well-trained specialists. Experience has shown that a year and one-half is rather a short time to achieve this. After all, it is not only training. Servicemen have to be allowed to use the equipment, to gain experience. It is another matter for these specialists to serve as privates. Knowledge should be reflected in rank.

The draft law has not yet been considered in the Federation Council. It is possible that some amendments will be made to it, for example after conciliation procedures. Therefore, it is still premature to speak of signing that law.

[Zamyatina] How do you intend to resolve the situation concerning Russian Public Television [ORT] in connection with the recent decision by the State Duma, which practically suspended ORT's activities?

[Yeltsin] The lower chamber has adopted a draft law, and has been very hasty in doing so. We have seen all that. Now the Federation Council must study the draft law carefully and make its proposals.

As for my position on the setting up of ORT, I have already said that I think Russia needs such a television. Its aim will be to achieve accord in the country, and to unite the different forces for the sake of creation, for the sake of the revival of a Great Russia. I hope that this television will bring joy to Russians by broadcasting good programs.

## Yeltsin Ends Vacation, Departs Sochi for Moscow

*LD1604075495 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0747 GMT 16 Apr 95*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Irina Shchegoleva]

[FBIS Translated Text] Sochi, 16 Apr—Russian President Boris Yeltsin, who was here on vacation, today flew from Adler airport to Moscow. An ITAR-TASS correspondent was told of this by well- informed sources.

## Yeltsin Arrives in Moscow

*LD1604095395 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0935 GMT 16 Apr 95*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Andrey Shtorkh]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow April 16 TASS—President Boris Yeltsin returned here from Sochi on Sunday afternoon at the close of his holiday and is to get down to work in the Kremlin on Monday morning, well-informed sources from the presidential staff have told ITAR-TASS.

## President Yeltsin Resumes Work in Kremlin

*LD1704054395 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0531 GMT 17 Apr 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow, April 17 ITAR-TASs—Russian President Boris Yeltsin who returned to Moscow on Sunday from a vacation in the south of Russia, resumed work in the Kremlin on Monday morning, the Presidential Press Service reported at 09.15 today.

## Yeltsin Backs Duma Resolution on WWII Anniversary Amnesty

*LD1704084395 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 0800 GMT 17 Apr 95*

[FBIS Translated Text] Russian President Boris Yeltsin today announced he will support the State Duma resolution on an amnesty in connection with the 50th anniversary of the victory in World War II.

The president's press service said the president had expressed his support in the comment on the draft federal law concerning changes and additions to the Criminal Procedural Code of the Russian Federation, which Boris Yeltsin sent to Ivan Rybkin, chairman of the lower house of the Russian Parliament.

The president also pointed to the advisability of enlisting the cooperation of such ministries and departments as the Ministry of Justice, the Procurator General's Office, the Internal Affairs Ministry, the Defense Ministry, and the Federal Security Service to help do the important and responsible work of drafting the lower house resolutions concerning the announcement of an amnesty in connection with the 50th anniversary of the victory in the Great Patriotic War, and concerning the procedure for its application. The president also said it is advisable to also enlist the cooperation of the Supreme Court.

### Yeltsin Meets With Rybkin, Chernomydrin in Kremlin

*LD1704133095 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1316 GMT 17 Apr 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow, April 17 ITAR-TASS—Russian President Boris Yeltsin who resumed work in his Kremlin office today after a three-week springtime vacation in the south of the country, met State Duma Chairman Ivan Rybkin and Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin to discuss current political issues.

According to the press service of the president of the Russian Federation, the conversation focused on better preparation of new legal acts and law-making in general.

### Chubays Against Special Law on Privatizing State TV, Radio

*LD1504183995 Moscow Russian Public Television First Channel Network in Russian 1700 GMT 15 Apr 95*

[FBIS Translated Text] [Deputy Prime Minister] Anatoliy Chubays has sent a letter to Vladimir Shumeyko and Ivan Rybkin, the chairmen of the Federal Assembly chambers. The first deputy prime minister informed them that the government had examined the law on the special way of privatizing state TV and radio bodies that had been passed on 5 April. The fact that this law postpones the usage of the first frequency channel, as well as of Global Moscow satellite TV by the joint-stock company Public Russian Television [ORTV] is actually a hindrance in the work of ORTV and infringes on the norms set forth by the Constitution.

Chubays believes that the authors of the law proceeded from the erroneous idea that the first frequency channel and Global Moscow had become an object of privatization. Meanwhile, no privatization is involved.

In the letter to Shumeyko and Rybkin, Chubays stresses that the adoption of the federal law on a special way of privatizing state TV and radio bodies in the proposed wording is at variance with the legislation and cannot be supported by the government.

### Stepashin on Law Delegating Powers To FSS

*LD1404165495 Moscow Russian Public Television First Channel Network in Russian 2010 GMT 13 Apr 95*

[Studio interview with Sergey Stepashin, director of the Russian Federal Security Service, by announcer Sergey Dorenko; date not given; from the "Versions" program—live or recorded]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt]

[Dorenko] Hello, today we are going to talk about the new law on the Federal Security Service [FSS], which is a part of the former KGB. [passage omitted: Dorenko's comments on the law] We are talking to FSS Director Sergey Stepashin.

The new law delegated new and a great number of powers to your, the counterintelligence activities as before, intelligence activity that will probably intersect with foreign intelligence activities and combatting crime. Are you not turning into the same kind of monster as the KGB was once? What is probably left is to take over the Frontier Guards Service.

[Stepashin, laughs] To take over the frontier troops. It is an interesting proposal for the border guards. I do not think so. The thing is that this law brings into compliance what we have been doing for a year. It even brings into compliance the presidential edict on the Federal Counterintelligence Service. We have been involved in combatting crime, and especially after returning from an investigation [sentence as received]. The main task of our agency is counterintelligence. Foreign intelligence activities, accords, and protocols that we have signed with the Foreign Counterintelligence Service, de jure, consolidate our task and function as a Foreign Intelligence Service. This is what the law stipulates.

[Dorenko] In some of the areas your activities will intersect. Counterintelligence deals with those who have arrived in the country with the aim of spying and then are caught by you. This is just schematic. As for the Foreign Intelligence Service, it deals with foreign intelligence activities. There might be an element of jealousy and a conflict of interests with the Foreign Intelligence Service. It is probably good to have a competition. But do you think it is justifiable from the budget point of view to have two organizations that will be involved in similar activities.

[Stepashin] This is not exactly true. There is no competition even now. First departments of our territorial bodies [as heard], the so-called territorial intelligence, the corresponding structures in the central apparatus, have always existed and continue to exist today. As I said before, all forms of our cooperation with the Foreign Intelligence Service have been consolidated by accords and 11 protocols.

But you should understand that to break down the intelligence activity within the Russian Federation and outside it is practically impossible. Therefore, the law stipulates this as a task and as a form of cooperation, and it is being stipulated by the accords that I mentioned before.

[Dorenko] Why do you not simply place them under your command? It would be more logical.

[Stepashin] I do not think so, especially in view of the international practice. Let us take the CIA as an example and the Central Intelligence Service (sentence as heard). This is the most typical example. We do not pose a question like this. By the way, the law does not envisage this.

[Dorenko] The Foreign Intelligence Service claims that it cannot operate within the CIS territory. But can you? This is a different aspect.

[Stepashin] I do not think that this is right to say that we are working in the CIS. We are cooperating with the CIS. Recently we have reached accords with the counterintelligence services of the Commonwealth. You know that this took place three weeks ago. We have set up, in general, we have formalized meetings under the aegis of the leadership of the Federal Counterintelligence Service. We are talking here not about working against the countries of the CIS and against their counterintelligence services, but cooperating with them in practically all spheres. This is a unique union of the special services of the independent countries. The world does not have anything similar to this.

[Dorenko] Naturally, it should not contradict the interests of Russia.

[Stepashin] Why only Russia? It should not contradict the interests of Ukraine, Belarus, and Kazakhstan. Of course, you are right.

[Dorenko] As for combatting crime. I have heard it from the police, from ordinary investigators and not the high level ones, about the batch of drugs that was confiscated in the Far East last year. And you attributed it to yourself, at least that is how the media covered it. But it was they who planted the agents, they say. Thus, you are combatting drug abuse and as well as them. There will be many cases where [words indistinct]. You will have to compete again.

[Stepashin] Good God, there will be plenty of jobs for all of us in combatting drug abuse and organized crime, murderers and criminals. We should do it together. The question should be posed differently: Why you are not working properly and not doing enough. As for the Far East—this is not true. I went there last May and met the regional and internal affairs leadership, and our colleagues. We worked together. As for the task of combatting the drug trade, especially the international one, this has always been the task of the former KGB and of the special services. It has not changed. There is no conflict of interests, and we are not at daggers drawn.

[Dorenko] I want to clarify one thing: Can you now set up a false company that will conclude accords and provoke a criminal? You know that he is the criminal but you cannot prove it. Could you provoke him into committing a crime. We hear about such stories from the U.S. westerns. You could provoke somebody.

[Stepashin] I do not call this a provocation. The term for this is operational games. I put an end here, otherwise-...[does not finish sentence]

[Dorenko] The law allows them.

[Stepashin] The law allows us to carry out operational games in accordance with the legislation and under the supervision of the procuracy.

[Dorenko] You can enter any building. That is not new.

[Stepashin] We can enter the building if there is a real danger to life. You know that the former law stipulated this as well. As for working in them—we can do this provided we have been authorized by the court. The previous law envisaged all these norms.

[Dorenko] Probably I am mistaken, but there is a norm here that allows you to enter a dwelling house and you will be expected to report within 24 hours.

[Stepashin] Absolutely right. This could only happen if there is an immediate danger to life or we know that there are criminals inside, or when the situation is such that unless we do it now the [word indistinct]. I want to stress again that we need the court's authorization, and if this is done unlawfully then [words indistinct] will be persecuted. [Dorenko tries to interrupt] I am sorry to interrupt you Sergey, but your said yourself that there were no complaints last year. We could say that the complaints have not been filed due to our low efficiency. But we are trying to observe and are observing the law and the Constitution.

[Dorenko] Article 12 invests you with powers to ensure the security of the federal state authorities. Does this mean creating a new 9th Directorate and pushing aside the Chief Security Directorate and the personal tragedy of its leaders Korzhakov and Barsukov. Is there any division of powers?

[Stepashin] Naturally, this is the law on our service, the FSS, which was called the Ministry of Security before. As you can see there are three tasks here on a physical protection of state figures. As for ensuring the security of the state power structures—this is a part of counterintelligence activity, informational activity, measures related to fighting terrorism, etc. Precisely, the functional tasks of the department, which today is called the Federal Security Service. Protection of a statesman is not our task—this is the function of the structures that you mentioned before. Therefore, there is no reason for either Nikolay Ivanovich or for Mikhail Vasiliyevich to worry.

[Dorenko] One of the articles says that you are not obliged to show your operational data to the procuracy. I probably speak too sharply, correct me if I do. What is the right word for lack of control?

[Stepashin] We do not show the procuracy our data about the agents and our ways and methods of obtaining this or that information on this or that criminal group, and this is the standard international practice, otherwise the special services cease to exist. This is a part of work of the special services. If we violate the law—then the prosecutor, according to Article on the supervision by the procuracy, has the right to demand everything he needs for a proper investigation.

[Dorenko] Including the operational information.

[Stepashin] I want to stress again. At issue are only two aspects: The agent's name and the forms and methods of our activity. You understand why we are doing this.

[Dorenko] What if I quarrelled with somebody and then I was caught in the street at night, injected, and then drugs with my fingerprints were put in my pockets, as well as a syringe. Then I will be accused of assaulting an official and sent to Magadan. Would you show the information to the court. [passage omitted]

[Stepashin] Nobody is going to send you to Magadan on the basis of what you just said.

[Dorenko] The court will need some proof?

[Stepashin] The court will need proof, witnesses, all the information in accordance with the criminal and judicial code. This will be the basis for bringing the action. On the basis of the operational data, no action could be brought against you. It is not 1937 and not the revolutionary court when the decisions, and you know what kind of decisions, were made on the basis of the operational data. There is no danger of this now.

[Dorenko] I need some kind of the dogma, on the basis of which I can tell representatives of the security service to get lost. [passage omitted]

[Stepashin] I would probably put it differently. I think that the majority of our citizens do not feel threatened by us, the police, and the procuracy. The majority of the population puts the question differently—where you are and why you are not working properly. Sometimes, they tell us that we should shoot on sight. I am not a supporter of this. I am afraid that normal people might suffer, not the criminals. I am sure that you will not have to look for any kind of dogma in dealings with the FSS. [passage omitted]

## Aide Cautions Against Haste on Local Rule

*MM1704123595 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 14 Apr 95 First Edition*

[Article by Vyacheslav Benkevich, chief of the Department for Local Self-Government Problems within the Russian Federation Presidential Staff Administration for Work With the Territories: "First Comes the Classification, Then the Dissemination. General Principles Can Only Be Formulated on the Basis of the Experience Now Being Accumulated by Local Organs of Authority"—from the "Zemstvo" section p 1]

[FBIS Translated Text] The need for the adoption of the Law on Local Self-Government arose following the entry into force of the new Russian Federation Constitution, which devotes a whole chapter to this problem. Just such a draft law on the general principles for the organization of local self-government in Russia has been prepared and submitted by the president to the State Duma. It was recently given a first reading and adopted as a basis. But I must say that the reform of local authority will not be implemented by one law alone. This is a process that takes time.

Federation components are also preparing their own legal base for the shaping of local authority. One of the first was Karelia, which formulated the corresponding documents back in January 1994. Laws in the localities are being written against the background of the components' varying degrees of legal preparedness. Analysis of the legal acts regulating the system of local self-government shows how their desire for and understanding of reform varies.

I will not venture to assess unequivocally whether this is good or bad, especially since there is no monopoly on reforming authority. Article 72, Point "m" of the Constitution says that "the establishment of the general principles for the organization of a system of organs of state power and local self-government" falls within the joint jurisdiction of the Russian Federation and the components of the Russian Federation. Let me just point out that participation in the formulation of the law has demonstrated that even a few months ago the view of certain things was different from what it is now. Time has modified it, and the need for the transitional period outlined in the draft law is very obvious. The difference lies in how it is understood.

From my viewpoint, the transitional period forms part—possibly the main part—of the federal program for the reform of local self-government. There are varying conditions in the localities and, importantly, the population's degree of readiness for reform also varies. That is perhaps the greatest problem. Therefore a transitional period is necessary for serious explanatory work. People do not fully understand what they will gain from local self- government. It is associated with the soviets, to which they also adapted in the past. Time is needed for the population to comprehend the new type of authority and its functions.

Extensive information is needed regarding the extent to which the people who are elected and empowered to resolve matters pertaining to local life are accountable and how they are voted out in extreme cases and made answerable. In this connection I must remind you that judicial protection today is unclear and time is needed to change the criminal code.

What is more, it will make it possible to weigh up selectively and soberly each component's potential and its cadres' readiness to implement reform. If we do not think about training cadres now, we may cause many good ventures not to secure the best of results owing to their unprofessional implementation. In my view, the transitional period will take several decades.

With a view to resolving the aforementioned problems certain Federation components came up with the initiative of conducting an experiment on their territory in shaping local self-government. In this connection I must once again stipulate the legal implications. First and foremost there must be a statute on the experiment which clearly and lucidly sets out the scale of the aforesaid experiment. If the experiment is conducted within a rayon or a city, the component itself decides on its implementation without any coordination with the federal authorities.

This route may quite possibly become an integral part of the quest for a Russian system of local self-government. At any rate, the Ministry for Nationalities and Regional Policy is laying down the experiment methodology, but it is also necessary to decide on the financial and legal aspects and the extent of any possible concessions.

I must particularly stress something that the population at large has as yet failed to comprehend. Russia occupies a different geographical area following the collapse of the USSR. It no longer covers one-sixth of the globe. Russia is a northern country. Over 60 percent of its territory is in the North and equivalent areas. Just 11 million people live in these areas. The bulk of our compatriots live on the remaining 38 percent of the country's territory.

Russia was always a small-scale commodity-producing country, with its populated points tied to production. The North was opened up according to the settlement principle: an area of raw materials, with cities and production units based around a single commodity. If you compare the density of populated points across the country from east to west, it is easy to see that in the East the area is large and the population density very low while, on the other hand, how densely the Central Region of Russia is covered with villages.

The question inevitably arises as to which principle is advisable for the organization of local self-government—the territorial or the settlement principle? The territorial system in the European part of the country whereby a rural soviet used to unite around 15 villages should probably not be destroyed. An economic and life- supporting infrastructure has already taken shape there. The rayon link should for the time being remain unshakable. Even if a lower level of authority is formed here and it is more complex than in the cities, which have psychologically and historically attained a different level of development and self-organization for their inhabitants.

The seats of tension force us to ponder what changes in administration may entail for society. The transitional period will make it possible to adjust the means for entering the system of local self-government and to make amendments even to the Constitution if something is found not to be working.

A transitional period is all the more natural for the formation of a system of local self-government in that our state is itself in a state of transition. It is not a matter of delaying a decision but of sensible prudence. That was what guided our president in preparing the draft law. History shows that people remember the results rather than the speed of implementation.

## Military & Nuclear Issues

### Mikhaylov Rejects U.S. Fears Over Nuclear Deal With Iran

*LD1604224795*

[FBIS Editorial Report] Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian at 1940 GMT on 16 April broadcast a 15-minute program called "The Russian Atom and Peace," in which Russian Atomic Energy Minister Viktor Mikhaylov is interviewed. He states the importance of nuclear energy, saying that it will account for 20 percent of energy used on the earth by the end of the 20th century. The interviewer, Aleksandr Peslyak, comments that the USA fears that nuclear reactors around the world might be used for military purposes. Mikhaylov replies: "Using the fuel to make a nuclear bomb is in principle possible, according to the laws of physics, but no nuclear state will do it because, even for the most developed countries, it will be practically, technically, extremely difficult, not possible. It is just not that simple. It is not just a question of getting hold of nuclear components of the required quality for the nuclear weapon, you have to know how to process them, how to assemble them correctly, it is extremely difficult."

Peslyak proposes that the opposition to the reactor deals with North Korea and Iran was "purely economic and political." Mikhaylov agrees. In Iran's favor, Mikhaylov says: "Iran was one of the first countries that not only allowed the IAEA to inspect its nuclear industry and activity, but also allowed random inspections without previous warning, without previous agreement. This is a big step, and the USA is only just getting round to this today with North Korea."

The United States was not pleased with the IAEA for refusing to ban Iran from building nuclear power stations, Mikhaylov says. "Knowingly or not, the IAEA at some point acted counter to the interests of the USA." As for North Korea, given the massive investment into its nuclear industry by the Soviet Union, "Russia has the right to be an equal member of the consortium, and not just a guest," Mikhaylov says, referring to the U.S.-Japanese-South Korean consortium involved in North Korea's nuclear power industry.

"As for the nonproliferation of nuclear weapons," Mikhaylov says, "I will be open, you probably know anyway, but I never stop repeating it—who created the nuclear weapon in Israel, in South Africa, who helped the country now on the threshold of developing nuclear weapons, Pakistan?"

### Yeltsin Comments on Extending Army Service

*LD1504111195 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1001 GMT 15 Apr 95*

[By ITAR-TASS observer Tamara Zamyatina]

[FBIS Translated Text] Moscow, 15 Apr—The Russian president has supported, in principle, the decision to increase the term of army service that was passed by the State Duma. In an interview with an ITAR-TASS observer, Boris Yeltsin stressed that the need to extend it was caused primarily by the disastrous shortage of recruits, even taking consideration of the reduction in the Armed Forces. Apart from that, he said, "highly sophisticated military hardware requires highly educated and well-trained specialists. A year and a half is rather little to achieve that." At the same time, the president expressed himself opposed to qualified experts serving as privates. "Knowledge should be reflected in rank," declared Boris Yeltsin.

As for the actual law on increasing the term of service in the army, and the call-up of graduates from higher educational establishments to the Armed Forces, the Russian Federation president feels that it is still premature to talk about signing it. "The draft law has not yet been considered in the Federation Council. It is possible that some amendments will be made to it, for example after conciliation procedures," noted the Russian head of state.

### Black Sea Fleet Military Council Appeals to Russian Leaders

*LD1404170995 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1606 GMT 14 Apr 95*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Anatoliy Yurkin]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow April 14 TASS—A closed-door meeting of the Military Council of the Black Sea Fleet was held here today under the chairmanship of fleet commander Admiral Eduard Baltin to discuss the latest fleet developments and decisions taken by the Russian Navy's General Staff.

Sources at the fleet press center told ITAR-TASS today that negotiations on the fleet division continue despite the moratorium on unilateral reduction of the Russian Black Sea Fleet announced by the Russian State Duma. The fleet's Military Council is not informed on the progress and results of the secret negotiations. Decisions on the fleet are sudden, ships and units are transferred to the Ukrainian Navy and social protection of servicemen is not ensured.

The meeting stressed that such actions have entailed fleet losses that surpass the losses in the World War Two. In the opinion of council members, the fleet may stop being an operative-strategic formation by the 50th V-day and on the eve of the 300th anniversary of the Russian Navy.

On behalf of sailors and officers, the Military Council appealed to the Russian leadership for explanations of its stand on the Black Sea Fleet. "We have made our choice - to serve Russian interests and be loyal to the oath, combat traditions and history of the fleet. This position has been the standard of honor, dignity and military duty," stresses the statement.

### Missile Forces Carry Out 'Practice' ICBM Launch

*LD1404182495 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1526 GMT 14 Apr 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Plesetsk, April 14 (INTERFAX)—Russian strategic missile force carried out a practice launch of the inter-continental ballistic missile Topol S-25 from the Plesetsk test site (Archangel region) at 15:30 Moscow time [1130 GMT] on Friday.

A spokesman for the strategic missile force command has said that the missile had flown about 7 thousand kilometers, coping with its mission. Twenty four minutes later it crashed on the Kamchatka peninsula in the area of the Kluchi community.

Interfax correspondent reports from Plesetsk the first launch scheduled for 15:25 Moscow time was canceled. The missile from the reserve launcher blast off five minutes later.

Defence Minister Pavel Grachev, who attended the launch, told the journalists present that at the last moment he had ordered the missile unit to use reserve launcher. "That was an exercise. (?In) combat conditions the missile would be launched at first attempt", Grachev said.

Early this month Russia had problems with launching Topol's conversion model - the Start booster rocket - with three satellites on board.

Head of the State Committee for Flight Tests Yuriy Yashin told a news conference following the failure that the fourth stage engine had been switched on by the control system twelve seconds earlier than planned and the command to switch on the fifth stage was never issued.

### Grachev Remarks on Failed Topol Missile Test

*LD1404194495 Moscow Russian Public Television First Channel Network in Russian 1700 GMT 14 Apr 95*

[Video report from Plesetsk missile test range by television correspondent Vladimir Polozhenetsev, including recorded remarks by Russian Defense minister Pavel Grachev; from the "Novosti" newscast]

[FBIS Translated Text] An RS-12M Topol ballistic missile—an SS-25 according to NATO classification—was launched this afternoon from the Plesetsk missile test range in the presence of Russian Defense Minister Pavel Grachev. Actually, there were two launches, as our correspondent reports.

[Polozhenetsev] [Video shows Grachev at site, launch pad, launch, railway cars used to carry missiles] There was an unsuccessful combat training launch of a Topol missile carrier at the Plesetsk test range today, where Pavel Grachev was on a working visit. The missile failed even to leave its ampoule [ampula]. Only five minutes later a reserve Topol took to the air. The defense minister himself had this to say about the incident.

[Grachev] This was a scenario instruction [vvodnaya]. The scenario instruction was to retarget the second missile at the exact moment when the first was ready to be launched.

[Polozhenetsev] True, the defense minister said later that if it had been a combat Topol, then the launch would certainly have taken place. The reserve machine delivered the conventional warhead to Kamchatka in 24 minutes, hitting the exact programmed grid square.

Yesterday, Pavel Grachev was greatly impressed by a visit to a 32-meter strategic-purpose shaft in Tatishchevo. When he came up he said: Yes, this is no submarine. This is a lot more complex and serious.

There are hundreds of such shafts in the country. There are SS- 19 intercontinental missiles standing ready in the Tatishchevo division here. They are capable of carrying several nuclear warheads. There are more than 20,000 soldiers and officers servicing our nuclear missiles, serving in four missile armies. This is no easy job and Pavel Grachev personally handed out ranks to officers ahead of time during his visit to the units.

Who could possibly imagine that this train is a rail-mounted combat missile complex? There are SS-24 Skalpel intercontinental missiles on these trains, which moved all over the country's railways until 1991. It is virtually impossible to track them, even with the use of satellites. They are permanently ready to be fired in combat. They only need to be brought to a launch park—and it seems that practically every station has one. Gorbachev stopped these trains as a gesture of good will in 1991, but they are ready to move off at any moment.

Generally speaking, the defense minister was, in his own words, very pleased with his four-day visit to units of the strategic missile troops. He described their combat readiness as high.

## Grachev Explains Missile Failure as Training Exercise

*LD1404211495 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1900 GMT 14 Apr 95*

[Video report by correspondent Roman Babayan including recorded remarks by Russian Defense Minister Pavel Grachev; from the "Vesti" newscast]

[FBIS Translated Text]

[Announcer Yuriy Novoselov] Russian Defense Minister Pavel Grachev finished his working tour of strategic missile troop units today. Our correspondent Roman Babayan has the details.

[Babayan] The minister visited one of the Russian Federation missile bases in Kostroma. From the outside, this train is no different from any other, but in fact it is no ordinary train. What you see is a combat railway missile complex. It differs from a stationary complex and the Topol complex mainly in that it is highly mobile. Missile troops assert that no nuclear state in the world has a missile complex like this.

Defense Minister Pavel Grachev went from Kostroma to Plesetsk, the last stop on his tour round the strategic missile troop units. [video shows forest, installations, barbed wire; inside of control room, missile streaking skyward] We are at the observation stand at the state training test ground at Plesetsk. In just a few minutes' time an SS-25 inter-continental ballistic missile will be launched from here.

But the most unexpected thing happened right here. After the launch command was given, the main missile failed to take flight, and the missile troops were compelled to switch to the reserve one. Five minutes after the initial launch time, a SS-25 missile was lifted into the air and took its course for the set target.

Asked by the "Vesti" correspondent why the launch of the main missile failed, Defense Minister Grachev, who had been at the observation stand all this time, answered:

[Grachev] The thing is, this is an exercise, it was a training launch, and then there was a retargeting, from the main missile to the reserve missile. The task was given to the commander to retarget the missile, and he fulfilled this task.

[Babayan] However, to judge from the general mood of Plesetsk missile troops and the minister himself, one may suppose that things were not really exactly like this.

However, summing up the results of his four-day tour of missile troop units, Grachev commented that he was fully satisfied.

## Grachev Urges 'Firmness' in Face of 'Blackmail' of Russia

*MM1404162895 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 15 Apr 95 p 1*

[Report by Aleksandr Pelts: "Missile Men Are Guarantors of the Motherland's Security"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Russian Defense Minister Army General Pavel Grachev's working tour of units of the Strategic Missile Forces continued 13-14 April.

On 13 April the defense minister visited a separate missile unit which has silo-based strategic missile systems in its arsenal. Army General Pavel Grachev familiarized himself with the regiment's disposition and attended a combat crew training drill.

Addressing the garrison personnel, the defense minister stressed once again the very important role played by the Strategic Missile Forces, as the guarantor of the Motherland's security. In his speech Army General Pavel Grachev devoted much attention to recent events in the world and the distribution of strategic forces. He noted that there have recently been increasingly obvious attempts to expand the NATO bloc by means of the former Warsaw Pact states. The fact that there have been attempts at the military blackmail of Russia prompts concern and alarm. In these circumstances our state cannot be an impartial observer of all the events taking place, and is forced to show more toughness and firmness in ensuring its own security.

In this connection, the defense minister noted, the Strategic Missile Forces are called upon to play the main role in the state's nuclear triad. He said that every day nearly 20,000 Strategic Missile Forces servicemen are at their combat posts. Nonetheless, despite the fact that about three-fourths of the state's nuclear potential is concentrated in the Strategic Missile Forces, they are the most economical and combat-ready forces. Expenditure on the Strategic Missile Forces accounts for 5-6 percent of the military budget, and the forces' personnel make up 10 percent of the Armed Forces as a whole.

As for the problem of manning the Armed Forces in general, Army General Pavel Grachev stated that increasing the service term from 18 months to two years is not a whim on the part of the military, but a necessary measure by virtue of the situation that has arisen in the troops.

The defense minister noted that systematic measures to reorganize and improve the structure of the Strategic Missile Forces are continuing today. In particular, the withdrawal of missile systems from Ukraine and Kazakhstan is being carried out.

Touching on the Strategic Missile Forces' development prospects, Army General Pavel Grachev named as the most important task that of putting on alert status missile units equipped with the SS-25 strategic system ("Topol-M"). Its first test took place in December 1994, and another is planned for May 1995.

This assessment was confirmed in the course of the defense minister's familiarization with another guards missile division, stationed near Kostroma. The formation's special feature is that here the missile systems are based on railroad flatcars. Army General Pavel Grachev, after observing a training drill, assessed the guardsmen's actions highly.

During the meeting that took place with the division's personnel, much attention was devoted to the servicemen's social problems and their life and service. The defense minister noted that from April pay has increased 30 percent, but even this is clearly not enough to ensure a decent life for the servicemen. Pavel Grachev paid particular attention to the problems of the guardsmen's everyday life. The situation in the unit is more favorable than in many others, but even here there is still a very large number of officers without housing.

The defense minister presented valuable gifts to a large group of officers, and conferred military ranks early on four guardsmen. They had earned this honor by fulfilling duties a step higher than the posts they held in a time of acute personnel shortage. The rank of colonel was conferred on Sergey Zolotopupov, commander of the guards regiment, and the rank of captain on Konstantin Dudnik, Yuriy Ivanov, and Konstantin Danyuk.

The defense minister visited the Kostroma Higher Command School of Chemical Defense.

On 14 April the defense minister flew to Plesetsk, where he will observe the combat-training launch of a "Topol-M" missile.

## Grachev: Russia Has Insufficient Weapons on Southern Flank

*LD1604181595 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1543 GMT 16 Apr 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW, April 16 (Interfax)—Russia's Defense Minister Pavel Grachev told Interfax in an exclusive interview that "only in a stable setting can Russia implement the Treaty on the Reduction of Conventional Forces and Armaments in Europe."

Speaking about the flank limitations, reserved for Russia, Grachev said that "when the treaty was signed the situation on the southern flank (the North Caucasus) was different."

"The amount of armaments and military equipment which Russia is allowed to have in accordance with this document is insufficient. Therefore, the foreign and defense ministries are explaining to our partners the importance of its revision for Russia," said Grachev.

There are different ways of circumventing this treaty, said Grachev. "One might replace the configuration of the military districts, pass over part of the military equipment and armaments to the interior troops, etc. But we are trying to convince our partners that the leaders of the former Soviet Union did a wrong thing agreeing to sign this document," he said.

He emphasized that no one could expect the Soviet union to break up when the treaty was concluded. "Now that the Soviet Union has broken up, Russia, as its successor, cannot observe all of the flank limitations," said Grachev.

### Duma Defense Committee Chairman Questions Grachev's 'Logic'

*LD1704092295 Moscow Radiostantsiya Ekho Moskvy in Russian 0800 GMT 17 Apr 95*

[FBIS Translated Text] Defense Minister Pavel Grachev's references to the war in Chechnya and the possibility of NATO's eastward expansion are incomprehensible. Sergey Yushenkov, chairman of the State Duma committee for defense, said this in an interview for Ekho Moskvy about yesterday's remarks by the defense minister.

Let me remind you that Pavel Grachev did not rule out the possibility of Russia not complying with some provisions of the treaty on conventional arms reduction in Europe. Grachev noted that the present situation in the north Caucasus had not been anticipated at the signing of the document.

Sergey Yushenkov believes that the defense minister's logic is rather unclear:

[Begin Yushenkov recording] It is understandable that the military industrial complex and the generals are trying to dream up ways to increase the numerical strength of the armed forces, to turn society to the path of militarization. The logic here is quite amazing too: Grachev also said at the same time that militarization is when the army is being reduced, not increased. The shorter the term of service, the more militarization, he claimed. If one follows this logic, in order to demilitarize society, one should call for the term to be increased not to two, but to 10 years. Or, for full demilitarization, to 25 years. This weird logic underlies all the pronouncements of the Defence Ministry. [end recording]

## Federal Assembly

### Duma Declines Document on Restoring Cooperation With Iraq

*LD1404195295 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1815 GMT 14 Apr 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW, April 14 (Interfax)—At its Friday sitting the State Duma declined the draft decree on restoring cooperation with Iraq: the document which was submitted by LDPR [Liberal Democratic Party of Russia] faction deputies Vladimir Lisichkin and Aleksey Mitrofanov failed to collect the needed 226 votes in its first reading. As many as 139 deputies voted for its adoption, 47 against and nine abstained.

The draft decree, in particular, provided for establishment and maintenance of all kinds of relations, implementation of all trade and other operations with Iraqi individuals and legal entities.

According to deputy Vyacheslav Nikonov (the Party of Russian Unity and Concord faction), if the draft decree is adopted Russia may "pay a very high price for hospitality which Saddam Husayn renders to individual political functionaries in the Russian Federation." He refuted the assertion of deputy Mikhail Burlakov (LDPR) that "the damage inflicted on Russia as a result of international sanctions amounts to $8 billion" and reassured that, vice versa, if the sanctions are lifted unilaterally Russia "will sustain great damage." In particular, Nikonov said, the existence of "the supposed deal on procurements of Russian arms amounting to $80 billion by countries of this region would appear under threat."

For his part, leader of the LDPR faction in the State Duma Vladimir Zhirinovskiy described projects on procurement of Russian arms by the Persian Gulf countries as "projects on the sand." He declared that Russia has the right to unilaterally go out of the regime of sanctions "if it sustains a great damage from this." Zhirinovskiy called on the deputies to go out of the regime of sanctions of not only Iraq, but Lebanon and several other countries.

At its morning sitting on April 14 the State Duma adopted the resolution on removing economic blockade from Iraq in principle. The deputies proposed to the Russian government "to persistently force adoption of the decision on lifting embargo for export of oil and other goods manufactured by Iraq in the UN Security council." At the same time the State Duma explains this "by a positive conclusion of the US ad hoc commission on fulfillment of the resolution of the UN Security Council No 687 concerning disarmament.

### Lukin Defends Duma's Decision To Hear Crimea's Tsekov

*LD1404145495 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1330 GMT 14 Apr 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW, April 14 (Interfax)—As a member of the OSCE [Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe] and the CIS, Russia must show interest in the rights of ethnic minorities and respond to violations of human rights in other member-states, Chairman of the State Duma's Committee for International Affairs Vladimir Lukin (Yabloko faction) told Interfax on Friday.

He said that in this context, the speech by chairman of the Crimean Parliament Serhiy Tsekov did not go against the international law.

"Juridically, Crimea is part of Ukraine, but we are members of the CIS, whose documents set forth the principles of a single legal system inextricably linked with the observance and defense of human rights," he went on to say.

"As human rights and the rights of ethnic minorities are not our internal affair alone, we have invited an OSCE mission to Chechnya, which is quite reasonable," he added.

In his opinion, the State Duma must not take any decisions on the situation in Crimea. "But it had to listen to Tsekov's information," he said, "because there are strong fears that the right to the autonomous status and the rights of ethnic minorities, above all ethnic Russians, are being violated."

### Further on Tsekov's remarks to State Duma

*LD1404131895 Kiev UNIAR in Ukrainian 1130 GMT 14 Apr 95*

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Moscow [no date as received]—"Crimea is attached to Russia in heart and soul but cannot openly say so for fear of provoking a conflict between Russia and Ukraine," Crimean Supreme Council Chairman Serhiy Tsekov said as he began his address to the Russian State Duma. A proposal to give the floor to Tsekov came from the Democratic Party of Russia and the Liberal Democratic Party of Russia [LDPR] factions in the Russian parliament. Duma Chairman Ivan Rybkin attempted to dissuade deputies from this decision, saying that it could potentially complicate Ukrainian-Russian relations. He urged the Duma to treat the Crimean problem as Ukraine's internal affair.

Deputy Chairman Gennadiy Seleznyov, who reported on his recent visit to Ukraine, backed the Duma speaker. He said that Ukraine and Crimea seemed to have different approaches to Ukrainian statehood. While the Ukrainian Constitution defines Ukraine as a unitarian state, the Constitution of Crimea treats it as a federation. This was the reason for the abolition of the Crimean Constitution, he said. [passage omitted]

Copies of the Ukrainian Supreme Council's appeal to the Duma against Russia's interference in Crimea, which Rybkin received from the Ukrainian ambassador, were circulated to deputies. [passage omitted]

Those opposed to the Crimean speaker addressing the Duma compared the situation to that of Chechen President General Dzhokhar Dudayev addressing the Ukrainian parliament. Those voting in favor of the motion joined Sergey Korobov of the LDPR faction who said: "Any person who comes to a church is entitled to help. Similarly, any person who comes to the Russian State Duma has the right to be heard and helped, if the Duma can help." Deputies voted to hear Tsekov's address with 234 votes in favor, which was a 52 percent majority.

"My address to the Russian State Duma was forced by the unscrupulous approach of the world community toward injustice in the treatment of Crimea," Tsekov said. "Above all, we are surprised and disappointed at Russia's attitude, whose support we counted on. However, it seems that President Kuchma was right in saying: 'You are on your own.' He meant that the Russian Federation would not protect Crimean interests."

Tsekov stressed that the situation in Crimea deteriorated as Ukrainian statehood developed. Ukraine's former President Leonid Kravchuk backed the Crimean Republic's autonomy, but President Kuchma, who practically owes his election to Crimean voters, has been putting constant political and economic pressure on the republic. "This is despite the fact that 93 percent of the Crimean electorate voted on 20 January 1991 for Crimea to be part of the Soviet Union and a full member of the Union Treaty."

Tsekov also levelled accusations at Ukraine's former leadership, who had promised certain independence to the autonomy before Ukraine's independence was declared, fearing Crimea's secession. "I think the present plight of Crimea has its roots in July 1994, when Oleksandr Moroz, the current speaker of the Ukrainian parliament, invited the Crimean Supreme Council to abolish the republic's autonomy and become part of Ukraine as a region. The Ukrainian legislature has acquired a habit of violating both its own legislation and international law," Tsekov said.

The blame for Ukraine's high-handed conduct in Crimea and its usurpation of power by taking control of local law enforcement and the security service lies with the Russian leadership, Tsekov said. He accused Russia of "pursuing a weak and vague policy on this issue. Russia is not concerned with Crimea's problems, leaving it to fend for itself for the sake of its strategic partnership with Ukraine, a partnership that has a rather dubious quality against the background of populist statements about friendship and cooperation.

"I have no right to advise Russian deputies as to how to give real help to Crimea and at the same time abide by international law, but you have what we do not: a Ministry of Foreign Affairs, international legal institutions, analytical centers, and so on. Since 65 percent of Crimeans are Russian and 85 percent regard themselves as Russian, Russia's lack of respect for Crimea is lack of respect for itself," Tsekov said in conclusion.

After the speech, Duma Chairman Rybkin suggested that the Committee for CIS Affairs and Ties with Countrymen chaired by Konstantin Zatulin study the issue further. Tsekov and Zatulin held a news conference at 1000 GMT today.

### Rybkin Backs Aspects of Duma Decision on Sanctions

*LD1404193495 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1627 GMT 14 Apr 95*

[From the "Diplomatic Panorama" feature: by diplomatic correspondents Aleksandr Korzun, Igor Porshnev, Yevgeniy Terekhov, and others]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW, April 14 (Interfax)—The State Duma's Chairman Ivan Rybkin said he agreed with many provisions of the lower chamber's resolution on lifting the economic sanctions against the United Republic of Yugoslavia adopted today.

He told Interfax in an exclusive interview that not only the Russian parliament but also many West European parliaments were currently discussing the necessity for lifting the sanctions against the United Republic of Yugoslavia.

Rybkin said the majority of the economic sanctions against this country appeared at present to be "unnatural" because the contribution of the United Republic of Yugoslavia to resolving the Yugoslav crisis was constructive which "is quite obvious."

### Lukin: Duma Sanctions Decision Does Not Overstep Competence

*LD1404193195 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1627 GMT 14 Apr 95*

[From the "Diplomatic Panorama" feature: by diplomatic correspondents Aleksandr Korzun, Igor Porshnev, Yevgeniy Terekhov, and others]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW, April 14 (Interfax)—The documents which contain recommendations to Russia's executive power regarding the lifting of sanctions from Yugoslavia and Iraq, adopted by the State Duma Friday, do not overstep the limits of the chamber's deputies' competence, believes Chairman of the State Duma Commission on International Affairs Vladimir Lukin.

In an interview with Interfax he noted that both resolutions only propose to the Russian government "to work more actively" in order to remove sanctions not unilaterally but "as a result of a comprehensive gradual work."

"If the Russian Federation unilaterally leaves the regime of sanctions against these states then other countries can, for example, toughen conditions for Russia's loans, conditions tied to trade in Russian arms, etc.," Lukin said. "We will not win a single dollar if we act unilaterally, one must act multilaterally cooperating with everybody but making more active efforts with respect to lifting sanctions," Lukin said.

### Duma Changes Regulations on No-Confidence Motions

*LD1404154195 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1252 GMT 14 Apr 95*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Lyudmila Aleksandrova]

[FBIS Translated Text] Moscow, 14 Apr (ITAR-TASS)—The Democratic Party of Russia [DPR] group, which intended to raise the issue of no-confidence in the government in the State Duma in the coming week, may see its plans fail. By a majority of votes, the deputies passed an amendment to the State Duma Standing Orders today, to the effect that a group of no less than 90 deputies is required from now on in order to raise the issue of no-confidence in the government. Previously all groups in the State Duma could raise this issue, regardless of their size. Now they have lost this right.

Thus, the DPR group, which currently has only eight members, has lost the possibility of initiating a vote of no confidence in the government unless it manages to collect the signatures of 90 deputies in support of its initiative.

## Regional Affairs

### Ossetian-Ingush Situation 'Troublesome', 'Stable'

*LD1404134495 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1246 GMT 14 Apr 95*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Valeriy Shanayev]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Vladikavkaz April 14 TASS—The situation in the Ossetian-Ingush conflict area remains troublesome but relatively stable.

ITAR-TASS was told by military sources that no interethnic conflicts had occurred in the region over the past 24 hours.

Forces under the Russian provisional committee for liquidation of consequences of the Ossetian-Ingush conflict are concentrating control on a safe zone which had been set up between North Ossetia and Ingushetia.

Mobile patrols are also controlling rural areas, where large-scale planting work is in progress.

Ingush refugees are returning to the Prigorodny District which was the centre of the conflict. Several Ingush families today came back to resettle in the district's villages of Dongaron, Dachnoye and Kurtat.

An earlier decree of President Yeltsin sanctioned that return to these villages be provided for 600 Ossetian and Ingush families displaced by the conflict. By now 349 families have returned.

The press service of the North Ossetian president and government reported today that remains of Gappo Bayev, a prominent North Ossetian statesman, historian and scientist, were brought from a Russian cemetery in Berlin, where he was buried in 1939, for reburial in Vladikavkaz.

Also brought to North Ossetia were copies of Bayev's works on the Ossetian language, literature, history and art.

Bayev will be buried on April 15 in the pantheon of Vladikavkaz' Cathedral of Nativity of the Virgin after a religious mass and public obit.

Bayev was one of first Ossetians who entered the Vladikavkaz city parliament in 1905. He took the post of city administrator in 1910. Bayev succeeded in his initiative to place Vladikavkaz on the list of eight pre-revolutionary Russia's cities which were candidates for opening universities.

### Chelyabinsk: Special Unit Formed To Fight Nuclear Terrorism

*LD1404165395 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1459 GMT 14 Apr 95*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Yevgeniy Tkachenko]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Ozyorsk (Chelyabinsk region) April 14 TASS—A special unit to combat nuclear terrorism was set up in the closed town of Ozyorsk (formerly known as Chelyabinsk-65), where the "Mayak" chemical complex, firstling of the Russian nuclear industry, is located, the regional newspaper "CHELYABINSKIY RABOCHY" reports today.

Many people are eager to serve in this unit in spite of the extremely high requirements. Every vacancy was contested by three applicants. The discipline and training are very tough in the unit. Its members are constantly exercising to spot and liquidate snipers, seize military vehicles, in the methods of hand-to-hand fighting, shooting, and cross-country running. The battalion's officers and men are able to hand all types of weapons after the training period. In addition to its main task—the protection of nuclear facilities—the Ozyorsk special battalion will most likely be used also to patrol the Chelyabinsk-Yekaterinburg stretch of the local motor highway.

### Kuril Islands 'Rattled' by Earthquake 15 Apr

*LD1504133195 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1258 GMT 15 Apr 95*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Yevgeniy Belovitskiy]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Yuzhno Sakhalinsk April 15 TASS—An earthquake rattled the Kuril Islands at 17:37 local time [0837 GMT] on Saturday.

The earthquake measuring 4.6 points on the richter scale centered 70-80 kilometers south of the island of Shikotan.

Seismologists said there was no destruction on the Kuril Islands.

In Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk, tremors of magnitude four lasted eight seconds. On Shikotan they reached magnitude five and lasted 30 seconds.

## Reportage, Commentary on Conflict in Chechnya

### Groznyy Restoration Effort

*MM1304143295 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 13 Apr 95 p 4*

[Report by Valeriy Yakov: "There Will Be No Unemployment in Groznyy"]

[FBIS Translated Text] As the combat actions continue on the territory of Chechnya, recovery work is in full swing in the republic, particularly in the capital. According to the Emergencies Ministry press service, ministry employees are busy not only supplying humanitarian aid, carrying out rescue operations, and transporting refugees, but also demolishing dozens of wrecked buildings which are unsuitable for rebuilding.

Special attention is being paid to restoring the power supply and sewers in the city, which were causing plenty of problems even before the war. The Fuel and Power Ministry decided to use mechanized columns and has already transferred the first six from the North Caucasus. The power workers' first job was substation 330, which is the key one not only for Groznyy, but for the republic as a whole and at which practically all the equipment was destroyed. The plan is to restore domestic electricity and get the city lights back on before 15 May.

Groznyy Airport is to open for passenger flights before that, by 30 April. The first flight will be from Rostov via Mineralnyye Vody to Groznyy. The " 'Transstroy' Corporation" joint-stock company is busy restoring the airport and its infrastructure and has gotten 200 of its specialists involved in the work at these facilities. The first test flight was carried out the other day. It was by a Central Airlines aircraft prepared by the air transport department. The purpose of the flight was to check on the possibility of receiving direct passenger flights from Moscow without an extra stop in Mozdok. Around 100 people were on board—members of the state commission and of the press.

Some 16 schools are open in the city, but the construction workers are clearly behind schedule, subcontractors are not supplying enough windows and glass, and children are forced to study in classrooms where the windows are covered in polyethylene. O. Soskovets, who visited schools with the members of the state commission, set the task of completing repairs on all schools in Groznyy by 1 September and providing them with equipment, textbooks, and sports gear.

The Emergencies Ministry Territorial Administration mechanized field bakery and the city's Nos. 3 and 6 bakeries are now producing more than 10 tonnes of bread per day, and the No. 1 water intake, now restored, is supplying more than 80 tonnes of clean water.

The state commission decided to get the local people more actively involved in the recovery work. Most of them are still not receiving pay, pensions or allowances. The experience of the Groznyy "Molot" plant, where 500 local people go every day, shows that people are not only willing to be involved in resurrecting their enterprise, but are getting a real chance to earn money doing real work.

### 'Vigorous Measures' Taken To Restore Economy

*LD1304142095 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1044 GMT 13 Apr 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] NAZRAN, April 13 (Interfax)—Vigorous measures have been taken to supply

Chechnya's population with foods and drinking water; restoration works are in progress.

As Colonel Komarov, who leads the press center of the command of united forces, told Interfax on Thursday [13 April], three hospitals have already been set up to accommodate about 155 persons; 15 hundred individual medical kits were distributed among the local people. The efforts to restore Groznyy's water supply system continue; drinking water is delivered for local residents regularly.

Interior troops and policemen continue to defuse mines and clear the wreckage. In the past three days they defused mines at three sections of the Red Sickle plant, three schools, the local military cantonment, 11 private houses and other places.

According to Cl. Komarov, 40 dogs trained to spot explosives and narcotics have been brought to Groznyy.

The commandants' offices are engaged in registering the refugees and in confiscating firearms. On Wednesday alone they confiscated 28 submachine guns, 29 rifles, 2 missiles and a grenade thrower.

### Shakhray on Law of Measures for Settlement

*LD1304202095 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1800 GMT 13 Apr 95*

[FBIS Translated Text] Commenting on the federal law of interim measures for a political settlement of the conflict in Chechnya, Deputy Prime Minister Sergey Shakhray noted that the law's main provision is the one according to which all Russia's servicemen fulfilling their military duty in Chechnya are under the protection of the Russian Constitution. Shakhray also noted:

[Begin Shakhray recording] From the day when the law comes into force the use of units of the Ministries of Defense and Internal Affairs in Chechnya will only be possible in the areas where the state of emergency has been introduced. We think that this provision is absolutely justifiable and natural since the destruction of heavy military equipment, aviation, artillery, and Dudayev's planes and further illegal fighting formations, and ensuring law and order in the republic should be naturally done under the state of emergency regime. At last, does this law envisage negotiations with Dudayev? At issue are negotiations of the government and Russia's joint federal armed forces with field commanders. We have been and will be carrying out this job. Recently Kulikov has met Maskhadov. This law obliges the government to hold meetings with Dudayev. [end recording]

### Pacific Fleet Marines To Enter Groznyy Late Apr

*LD1404160395 Moscow 2x2 Television in Russian 0600 GMT 14 Apr 95*

[FBIS Translated Text] The procedure and datelines for replacing the combined marine regiment of the Pacific Fleet in Chechnya have been approved by Russia's minister of defense. The instructions relating to this were issued in Maritime Territory today, an ITAR-TASS correspondent was told by the fleet's press service. In accordance with the instructions of the main military department, in the last 10 days of April, sub-units of marines from the three fleets of the Russian Federation will enter Groznyy simultaneously.

### Spokesman Explains Yegorov Appointment

*LD1404142295 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1408 GMT 14 Apr 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow, April 14 (INTERFAX)—In an interview with INTERFAX, representative of the Interior Ministry leadership refuted information about replacement of commander of the group of federal forces in Chechnya Colonel General Anatoliy Kulikov for Colonel General Mikhail Yegorov.

He explained that in the near term Kulikov is to come to Moscow for a short vacation after a 5-month staying in the zone of hostilities. First Deputy Interior Minister Mikhail Yegorov will command the federal forces in Chechnya during the period of Kulikov's absence.

Yegorov's candidacy was chosen due to the fact that "the military stage of the Chechen operation is being concluded and fight with criminal groupings will enjoy priority. And it is Yegorov who heads the Department on Organized Crime Fighting in the Interior Ministry," INTERFAX interlocutor said.

"General Kulikov's activity on the post of the commander deserves the highest estimate after a series of his successful operations aimed at liberation of Chechnya's large populated centers which were carried out with minimum losses," the Interior Ministry spokesman said.

### Reports of Killing Troops Denied

*LD1404181295 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1526 GMT 14 Apr 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Nazran, April 14 (INTERFAX)—According to Chechen military sources, pro-Dudayev militants destroyed a federal outpost in the village Dachu-Borzoi located 30 kilometers to the south of Groznyy. A spokesman for the Chechen command told Interfax that dozens of Russian servicemen and six armored vehicles were destroyed in the operation.

The sources also reported military operations in the suburbs of Groznyy and the village Alpatovo in the Naur district in the north of Chechnya Thursday where up to 40 Russian interior troops were destroyed.

According to the sources, only three Chechen militants were killed in the suburbs of Grozny.

Meanwhile, the Russian Foreign Ministry's information and press department dismissed the reported killing of Russian servicemen near the village Dachu-Borzoi. An Interfax correspondent learned that the federal troops had never placed an outpost near the highland village "currently situation beyond control by Russian units."

For his part, a deputy head of the Russian Interior Ministry's public relations center, Colonel Mikhail Doronin, dismissed the Chechen reports of killing interior troops. No information on casualties had come from the mentioned districts over the last 24 hours, he added. At the same time, he did not rule out that Chechen militants well could open fire at police outposts in Groznyy, especially at night.

### Counterclaims on Village Attack

*LD1404181995 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1526 GMT 14 Apr 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Mozdok, April 14 (INTERFAX)—On Friday a group of federal forces in Chechnya launched a military operation to free the mountainous village of Bamut, bordering Ingushetia, from fighters, a representative of the joint command press center reported to Interfax. In his words, Russian forces carried out artillery strikes on sections of forest around Bamut where fighters have their strongholds.

The Interfax source said, "the federal forces did not conduct any assaults against positions of Dudayev's fighters."

Earlier, Chechen sources reported to Interfax that on Friday morning the federal forces had attacked Bamut twice but were rebuffed both times.

According to the federal command, Dudayev's special troops defend the village of Bamut, namely, concentrated in Bamut, are said to be fighters from a special-purpose militia battalion, an elite company, and what is left of the "Abkhazian battalion" which sustained serious losses during the hostilities in Groznyy.

A representative of the command pointed out that the former strategic rocket forces military cantonment, situated nearby, could create additional difficulties for successful military operations. Silos, bunkers, and underground passageways could serve useful to partisan fighters, including as storage facilities for arms and ammunition.

### Denial of Dudayev Wounding

*LD1404185095 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1600 GMT 14 Apr 95*

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[FBIS Translated Text] A flood of reports on the Chechnya theme features lots of denials today. The Chechen side reports destroying a federal troops post south of Groznyy. The Russian Defense Ministry denies this.

The Russian Interior Ministry, for its part, has not confirmed reports that interior servicemen died in clashes which allegedly took place on the outskirts of Groznyy on Thursday.

And in Nazran, an ITAR-TASS correspondent heard denials that Dzhokhar Dudayev has been wounded and left Chechnya. An anonymous but reliable source said he talked to Dudayev in person on Thursday evening.

### Troops Sweep Groznyy of Illegal Armed Units

*LD1404194595 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1753 GMT 14 Apr 95*

[By ITAR-TASS special correspondent Mikhail Shevtsov]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Groznyy April 14 TASS—Federal troops have started to clear Groznyy suburbs of the illegal armed units, confiscate arms and ammunition and demine the terrain in the eastern part of the republic, head of the East Group of Interior Troops' Headquarters Colonel Sergey Gorlov told ITAR-TASS today.

In the words of the colonel, the action was started on request of residents of the majority of settlements in the Chechen Shali and Gudermes regions who want to have their territory cleared of illegal armed units and start the spring sowing campaign.

When approaching a populated locality, the federal troops command offers the illegal armed units to lay down arms and leave the settlement, said the military. Local elders and administration heads act as mediators.

Thanks to close cooperation between the troops and the elders, the troops did not enter a single locality today. The peace-making operation will be continue on Saturday.

The local residents passed over seven Mukha grenade launchers, fifteen shells for the 100-millimeter gun, nine rifles, two pistols, 42 grenades and over 500 cartridges of various caliber to the federal troops today.

### Prosecutor General Charges Dudayev

*LD1404194895 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1815 GMT 14 Apr 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow, April 14 (Interfax)—The Russian Prosecutor General's Office has filed charges against Dzhokhar Dudayev in his absence. An order on detaining him has already been signed. Dudayev is now wanted by the law enforcement, Russian acting Prosecutor General Aleksey Ilyushenko said at a meeting with journalists at the Interfax main office in Moscow today.

Ilyushenko said that if Dudayev was arrested he would be held criminally accountable.

Ilyushenko said he believed that Dudayev could be charged on his methods of becoming Chechen president.

Ilyushenko said that even if what Dudayev had done in Chechnya during his rule was not taken into account, his way of coming to power would suffice for sentencing him. Ilyushenko stressed that Dudayev had come to power illegally.

Speaking about the people close to Dudayev, Ilyushenko said that the newly-appointed Chechen prosecutor had authorized a search for them and their arrest.

Ilyushenko said that a real war was underway in Chechnya and that both parties were violating human rights. He said the prosecutor's office was investigating over 20 criminal cases against servicemen suspected of looting and murder.

### Mine Clearance, Laying Operations

*LD1404215795 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1900 GMT 14 Apr 95*

[Report over video by correspondent Aleksandr Sladkov; from the "Vesti" newscast]

[FBIS Translated Text] [Sladkov] The military confrontation continuing in western Chechnya is taking on new aspects with every day. Today mine warfare is beginning.

Not a day passes without work for the sapper subunits deployed near Bamut village. Intensive mine clearance is under way on village tracks and roads in western Chechnya. Buildings and especially fields are being checked carefully—this is important in the sowing period. The sappers get a lot of calls from the civilian population: it is not only the military who get blown up, but peasants, children, and agricultural machinery too.

The sappers say that they mainly have to disarm antitank mines, which Dudayev mine-layers lay deep in the ground where the detectors do not operate but machinery will blow up. This is an anti-personnel mine: These are laid in scrub and drainage ditches. In the spring, when the grass comes up, it is quite impossible to spot them. Then there are mines like this, "frogs" [lyagushka], which when activated leap out of the ground and hit everything around within a radius of 25 meters.

The sappers of the federal troops have to lay mines, too.

[G. Luzychenko, commander of sapper company] We mainly use signal mines—trip flares, to mark the enemy's approach. We do not use antitank mines at all. Why would they be necessary, if we have to clear them ourselves afterward? We lay as few as possible, because we know that when all this ends we will have to clear the mines again.

### OSCE To Open Mission in Groznyy

*LD1404195695 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1902 GMT 14 Apr 95*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Mikhail Shevtsov]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Groznyy April 14 TASS—The Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) intends to shortly open its permanent mission in Groznyy, the capital of Chechnya. The mission will be headed by Hungarian representative Sandor Meszaros. It is expected to be staffed by six officials. ITAR-TASS learned this from Igor Gordeyev, a Russian presidential administration aide. He accompanied the group of OSCE representative led by chairman of this organisation Istvan Gyarmati, who visited Chechnya.

During its two-day sojourn the delegation also stayed in Dagestan, where it familarised itself with the state of refugees from Chechnya in Khasavyurt.

A building has already been procured for housing the OSCE mission. According to Igor Gordeyev, representatives of this organization in the Chechen capital will mainly monitor observance of human rights, and assist the peacemaking process. They also intend to render help in preparing and holding future elections in the Republic of Chechnya.

### Directive Issued on Aiding Red Cross

*MM1704091295 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 15 Apr 95 Saturday Edition p 3*

[Unattributed report: "Green Light for Red Cross"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Guided by the agreement between the Russian Government and the International Red Cross Committee, and with a view to ensuring the safety of the International Red Cross Committee delegation providing humanitarian aid to the victims of the events in the Chechen Republic, Viktor Chernomyrdin has signed a directive on the unhindered passage of that mission's transportation. The Russian MVD [Ministry of Internal Affairs] and Defense Ministry is to ensure access for Red Cross representatives to any casualities and, by agreement with the General Prosecutor's Office, to those captured in the course of hostilities in order to familiarize themselves with the conditions under which people are being held.

### 'Crack' Dudayev Units Defend Bamut

*LD1504075495 Moscow 2x2 Television in Russian 0700 GMT 15 Apr 95*

[FBIS Translated Text] The first operations in Chechnya are now concentrated near the inhabited locality of Bamut. It has been entirely encircled by federal troop subunits. According to reports from Dudayev's entourage, heavy fighting is under way near the settlement.

According to federal command information, Bamut is being defended by crack Dudayev units. According to reports, by this morning federal units had been withdrawn to their original positions in order to save men and the lives of the civilian population.

### Possible Peace Charter in Groznyy

*LD1504085595 Moscow Radiostantsiya Ekho Moskvy in Russian 0800 GMT 15 Apr 95*

[FBIS Translated Text] A regular session of the conference for a peaceful settlement in Chechnya will be held in Groznyy on 21 April. Umar Avturkhanov, chairman of the Committee for National Accord of Chechnya, said in an interview with Ekho Moskvy that a charter of peace is expected to be signed.

[Begin Avturkhanov recording] It is expected to include, in the first place, a cease-fire by all types of weapons, the withdrawl of forces and a surrender of weapons. We think that by that time a presidential decree will be issued on releaving of accountability those individuals who participated in the armed formations. [end recording]

### Federal Troops Lose 4 in Bamut

*LD1504130795 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1233 GMT 15 Apr 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOZDOK, April 15 (Interfax)—Federal troops lost four men during their operation designed to drive Dudayev's formations out of the village of Bamut in Chechnya on Friday; 15 servicemen were wounded. Interfax learned this on Saturday from the press center of the united group of forces deployed in Chechnya.

In the course of their offensive the Interior Ministry troops encountered strong resistance from the militants. The leaders of the operation decided to retreat to their initial positions to avoid losses, and entered into talks with the elders of the village.

As Interfax learned from competent sources, on Friday the command of federal troops succeeded in freeing another serviceman captured by the Dudayev loyalists.

Private Vyacheslav Bulatov had been in captivity since December 13.

### Bamut Elders Seek Talks

*LD1504131995 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1253 GMT 15 Apr 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] NAZRAN, April 15 (Interfax)—The elders of the Chechen village of Bamut are willing to confer on Saturday [15 April] with the command of federal troops engaged in the operation designed to capture the village. Interfax learned this from Mukharbek Khatsiev, who leads the administration of the near-by Ingush village of Arshty, where about three thousand refugees from Bamut had found shelter.

However, Khatsiev said, the Chechen militias holding Bamut have no intention of laying down their arms.

As one of them told Interfax, the statement of the federal troops' command that negotiations will be held to prevent losses among Russian troops and civilians cannot be trusted in the light of the latest developments in the village of Samashki.

Saturday morning Bamut was not shelled. As Khatsiev said, shelling of medium intensiveness took place on Friday till 2 a.m. last night three more wounded were brought from Bamut by a team from Ingushetia's Emergency Situations Ministry.

As Interfax learned from a well-informed source, Ingushetia's leaders are exploring the possibility of deploying a detachment of Russian border guards in Arshty. These measures are designed to prevent armed militants from infiltrating Arshty and exposing the village to the danger of military actions.

### 100 Russians Allegedly Killed in Bamut

*LD1504192195 Moscow Radiostantsiya Ekho Moskvy in Russian 1800 GMT 15 Apr 95*

[FBIS Translated Text] After yesterday's fierce fighting for the Chechen village of Bamut, the situation in the south-west of the republic has stabilized today. The Russian Federation forces were given the order to suspend the assault in order to avoid casualties on both sides, group commander General Mikhail Yegorov announced. According to his figures, four servicemen died yesterday around Bamut.

Chechen sources, however, claim that the Russian Army lost more than 100 men.

### Artillery Bombardment of Bamut Resumes

*LD1604101095 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0946 GMT 16 Apr 95*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Sharip Asuyev]

[FBIS Translated Text] Groznyy, 16 Apr—A massed artillery bombardment of the positions of Dudayev's armed supporters in the village of Bamut in western Chechnya resumed this morning. According to the federal forces, over 1,000 of Dudayev's fighters are concentrated in this populated area. Federal forces began the operation to take control of Bamut on Thursday.

It is clearly visible from Achkhoy-Martan, the district center, which is 10 km from Bamut, that many houses and outbuildings in the blockaded village are on fire. The inhabitants have left the village, and the fighters are refusing to comply with any ultimatum and continuing to defend using the installations of a former missile unit located there.

### Russian Army To Liberate Bamut

*LD1604185595 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1820 GMT 16 Apr 95*

[By ITAR-TASS special correspondent Mikhail Shevtsov]

[FBIS Translated Text] Groznyy, 16 Apr—The operation aimed to disarm the illegal armed formations in Chechnya's populated settlement of Bamut continues. ITAR-TASS has learned from informed sources that to avoid further losses on both sides active operations to disarm the illegal armed formations in Bamut were temporarily suspended.

The leadership of federal forces once again called upon the illegal armed formations in this settlement to leave the village and surrender weapons voluntarily. The fighters, however, did not accept this ultimatum, yet another one. Following this the federal forces are in a resolute mood and in the near future plan to fulfil their task to liberate the populated area of Bamut from the illegal armed formations.

According to the information available to ITAR-TASS, during the operation in Bamut the federal forces, regrettably, have suffered losses: About 10 people have died and more than 20 have been wounded. The losses among the fighters are unknown.

### Federal Troops Continue To Free Bamut

*LD1704070395 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0646 GMT 17 Apr 95*

[By ITAR-TASs special correspondent Mikhail Shvetsov]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Groznyy April 17 TASS—Federal troops suspended active operations to disarm rebels of separatist leader Dzhokhar Dudayev in the town of Bamut to avoid losses on both sides, ITAR-TASS learnt from military sources in the Chechen capital Groznyy on Monday.

The command of federal forces again offered on Sunday illegal military detachments in that town, the last rebel stronghold in lowland Chechnya, to leave it voluntarily and to surrender weapons.

However, rebels rejected again this ultimatum. In this connection, federal troops are fully determined to fulfil their task of freeing Bamut from gunmen in the near future.

According to information available to ITAR-TASS, ten federal troops were killed and over 20 wounded during the Bamut operation.

At the same time, federal troops continue operations to squeeze gunmen from villages in the Shali and Gudermes districts, to seize weapons and to demine terrain. According to information received from the Vostok group of interior troops, 59 firearms, 14 motars and grenade launchers, 57 hand grenades, 27 shells and 21 mines were seized.

An ITAR-TASS reporter accompanied units of an interior troops division for two days. During this period, the division established control over villages in the Shali district, situated east of Groznyy, between Gudermes and Shali. In actual fact, interior troops are engaged in a peaceful operation, since it is being conducted in agreement and in cooperation with the heads of administrations and elders of villages.

Interior troops do not enter villages, while weapons and ammunition are surrended to them voluntarely. Interior troops did not meet any resistance over the past three days. Under an agreement with local authorities, self-defence groups numbering 25-30 are to ensure law and order in villages.

The lists of such groups and their weapons are submitted to the command of interior troops.

Representatives from the local administration in the village of mairtup told ITAR-TASS on Sunday, that Dudayev's rebels threatened them with executions if they cooperate with federal forces.

Despite these threats, they surrendered part of weapons and promised to surrender another batch of weapons and ammunition.

### Samashki Death Toll Nearly 300

*LD1604105695 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1039 GMT 16 Apr 95*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Sharip Asuyev]

[FBIS Translated Text] Samashki (Western Chechnya), 16 Apr—The number of victims in the operation carried out by federal troops on 7-8 April to take control of this village is approaching 300. An ITAR-TASS correspondent, who was in the village today, was told this by local inhabitants.

Immediately after the operation, the press center of the command of the joint group of federal troops in Chechnya reported that over 130 of Dudayev's forces were annihilated and 124 taken prisoner during the course of the battle that went on for several hours. Furthermore, according to the press center, Dudayev's forces shot a group of local inhabitants who were intending to hold talks with representatives of the federal troop command.

An ITAR-TASS correspondent was given the opportunity today to see for himself how dozens of homes in Samashki had been destroyed and set on fire. Today the survivors of Samashki and the inhabitants of neighboring villages have come to help them continue burying the dead.

### Soslambekov Proposes Peace Plan

*LD1604135595 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1326 GMT 16 Apr 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW, April 16 (Interfax)—The former Chechen parliamentary chairman, Yusup Soslambekov, has proposed his own plan for peace settlement in Chechnya.

In a document he sent to Interfax, he pointed out the need for a stage-by-stage settlement of relations between the Chechen republic and the Russian Federation.

According to Soslambekov, peace settlement is to involve a ceasefire, talks between all political forces, universal elections and a new status of the republic.

On the first stage, talks must be held between plenipotentiary delegations on the level of prime ministers of Russia and Chechnya to compile a schedule for ceasing military operations.

The second stage involves talks between the republic's political forces in order to settle the internal political situation followed by parliamentary elections.

On the final stage, a referendum on Chechnya's status should be held to enable the newly elected leadership to define its relations with the federation.

### Troops Still Clearing Groznyy of Illegal Armed Formations

*LD1604155695 Moscow NTV in Russian 1500 GMT 16 Apr 95*

[From the "Segodnya" newscast]

[FBIS Translated Text] A surprising report has come in from Groznyy. The federal command announced that troops have begun operations to clear the suburbs of the Chechen capital of illegal armed formations. What is surprising is the fact that at least a month ago the successful completion of such operations was announced. In short, military talk of quick completion of the Chechen campaign clearly does not distinguish desire from actual fact. The situation leaves much to be desired even in the Groznyy area that was taken a long time ago and, so far, many generals who inspect the town have preferred to spend the night not in Groznyy itself, but on the territory of the airport that is under strict guard.

### Pacific Fleet Marines To Be Replaced

*LD1604162695 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 1530 GMT 16 Apr 95*

[FBIS Translated Text] Naval infantry battalions of the Pacific Fleet are to be withdrawn from Chechnya on 20 April. Russia's Defense Minister General Pavel Grachev has approved the schedule and procedure of their withdrawal. Task forces are to arrive in Groznyy today [16 April] to organize the replacement.

### Aid Convoy Hits Mine

*LD1604180095 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1700 GMT 16 Apr 95*

[FBIS Translated Text] A Russian armored personnel carrier accompanying a consignment of International Red Cross humanitarian aid was blown up on a mine in Chechnya on Saturday. The mine was laid by Dudayev's fighters near the Chechen village of Staryye Atagi. Several people were injured in the blast. This report was given to the Interfax correspondent in the Defense Ministry information department today.

## International Affairs

### Black Sea Fleet Discussions Will Continue

*AU1304164495 Kiev HOLOS UKRAYINY in Ukrainian 12 Apr 95 p 2*

[Unattributed report from Moscow: "The Fleet May Even Be Forfeited"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Next week, intergovernmental negotiations will continue between Russia and Ukraine on the status of the Black Sea Fleet. Oleg Soskovets, Russia's first deputy premier and head of the Russian delegation, said in the State Duma on Monday [10 April] that next Tuesday, on 18 April, an official delegation headed by acting Ukrainian Prime Minister Yevhen Marchuk will arrive in Moscow.

O. Soskovets is convinced that, unless the question of the status of the Black Sea Fleet is resolved "within one or two years, we will simply forfeit the fleet."

The first deputy premier condemned what he believes to be "hasty assessments" by the State Duma of the process of negotiations with Ukraine and the recent incident in the session hall when Nikolay Lysenko, chairman of the National Republican Party, ripped up the Ukrainian state flag.

### Deputy on NATO Command Visit, Russia Warning

*WS1404135395 Lvov MOLODA HALYCHYNA in Ukrainian 4 Apr 95 p 1*

[Report by Oleh Pelikhovskyy: "NATO Is Negligent. This Will Cost It Dearly"]

[FBIS Translated Text] **Ukrainian Deputy Oleksandr Shandryuk recently visited the NATO Allied Command Headquarters in Brussels as a member of a Ukrainian delegation of national security experts. The purpose of the trip was to become familiar with the concept of NATO restructuring and the structure of a new system of European security. Oleksandr Shandryuk, who belongs to the "Statehood" deputy faction, shared his thoughts about meetings with NATO leaders at a news conference.**

One was primarily struck by the fact that ideologists of the current concept of NATO restructuring are making two basic and inadmissible mistakes. They think that the existence of democratic Russia is essentially possible and that the Cold War is already over. Unfortunately, this is wishful thinking.

To prove the opposite, the deputy pointed to the quick expansion and revival of military structures of the former Soviet Union. This is being done when (just imagine!) NATO has adopted, on an ideological level, and already begun to practically implement a large-scale reduction of armed forces in the regions directly adjoining the borders of the former Soviet Union. This seems to be a strategic mistake, which may have very unpleasant consequences for Europe, the globe, and Ukraine being at the forefront of the current confrontation.

Moreover, in the course of meetings and talks with partners in Brussels, it was also pointed out that their position of endless justifications to Russia with regard to the reasons for NATO expansion with former Warsaw Pact members—as well as with their not very resolute steps toward the modernization of armed forces and the treatment of Ukraine's military potential in their calculations regarding Russia—is mistaken and must be reviewed.

Along with this, Oleksandr Shandryuk concluded that there is also no consideration for the current position of Ukraine's leadership, which has not yet voiced the wish that Ukraine become a full-fledged member of the North Atlantic bloc. Even though we joined the NATO Partnership for Peace program, we have not been able to attempt more (as, for example, Hungary, Poland, and the Czech Republic).

However, maintaining a situation where such a powerful state (one of the largest and mightiest countries in this part of the world) stays outside any bloc, is a pure utopia.

Mutual relations with Russia have already testified in practice that all talks about equal partnership with this country, at least in the near future, are groundless. Russia will not let us be a nonbloc state; it will gradually entangle us in the CIS military structures.

We will also not be able to stay in the middle (as a buffer between the two blocs). Therefore, of two possible options, one should be chosen: either to integrate in the Western military structures, which defend the ideas of democracy and peace, or back to the CIS, which means the same thing as joining the military structures of the Russian empire.

For national democratic forces, Oleksandr Shandryuk concluded, there is only one choice: Away from Russia, back to Europe!

### 'Split' With Russia Over Property Remains

*LD1404195395 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1630 GMT 14 Apr 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Kiev, April 14 (INTERFAX-UKRAINE)—Ukraine and Russia are still split over the conditions for transferring a part of former Soviet property abroad to Ukraine.

The director of the Ukrainian State Property Fund's state property management department, Vitaliy Kovtyukh, said "Russia delays the transfer of unmovable property to Ukraine." He recalled that the two countries had signed a protocol under which Russia is to give Ukraine buildings in 25 countries for its diplomatic, consular and trade missions until June 1, 1995. The Russian side was expected to continue selecting the buildings.

According to Kovtyukh, Russia had also agreed to hand Ukraine buildings in 43 countries for its embassies.

A joint bilateral commission decided to send a working group first to Romania, Poland, Bulgaria, Mongolia, Egypt, China and Kenya to develop a transfer mechanism on the spot.

Under this agreement, the working group visited Poland and Bulgaria, but failed to agree on the transfer of property in those countries. The group did not even visit the other five countries, because it remained split on the main conditions of the transfer.

At present, Ukraine has 49 buildings in 38 countries of the world. "In the U.S., Canada, France, Germany, Italy, the Czech Republic, Switzerland and Finland, Ukraine owns the buildings where its diplomatic missions are situated," the head of the Ukrainian Foreign Ministry's mission development and maintenance department, Vladimir Yalovoi, told Interfax-Ukraine.

### International Monitors Inspect Carpathian Military Units

*WS1404130195 Lvov MOLODA HALYCHYNA in Ukrainian 8 Apr 95 p 1*

[Unattributed report: "Though They Trust, They Still Inspect"]

[FBIS Translated Text] As the press center of the Carpathian Military District has reported, in accordance with the Treaty on Conventional Forces in Europe, two inspection teams from countries which are members of the treaty recently visited the Carpathian Military District troops.

One of the teams, comprising seven people (five U.S., one French, and one Italian servicemen) visited an air base of the Stryy garrison. The Ukrainian side was represented by Major Yuriy Tkalin from the verification center of the Ukrainian Armed Forces.

The second team of inspectors (six Czech and three German servicemen) oversaw the implementation of the treaty's terms at one of the Air Force units of the Lutsk garrison. They were escorted by Colonel Yevhen Zavalnyy, representative of the Carpathian Military District Staff, who heads the center for ensuring the implementation of agreements on arms reduction.

Following the inspection, the representatives of foreign armies noted that they accomplished their mission in full.

## National Affairs

### Commission Chairman Views Tsekov Speech to Russian Duma

*LD1404135895 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1254 GMT 14 Apr 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] KIEV, April 14 (Interfax-Ukraine)—A speech by the Crimean parliament's speaker Serhey Tsekov in the State Duma is "a direct interference in Ukraine's affairs," said Vladimir Stretovich, chairman of the Ukrainian parliament's Commission for Judicial Policy and Court Reform.

In an interview with Interfax Friday [14 April], he indicated that "any State Duma decision on the issue will be received in Kiev unequivocally negatively."

"We have enough common sense to adequately react to these actions and draw response from the world community," he declared.

Stretovich appealed to "Russian colleagues" to remember that "there are fates of people behind their decision."

He declared that the Ukrainian parliament had refrained from interfering in Russia's internal affairs "even during the massive destruction and assault of the Chechen village of Samashki."

"The very statement of Tsekov indicates that the number one in the administrative territory has not realized his role at a time when he could correct the situation and normalize it," Stretovich believes.

He said that Ukraine as a unitary state will defend its territorial integrity within the framework of the OSCE final act.

Stretovich said that the Ukrainian parliament will discuss Tsekov's address.

The Crimean parliament's speaker strongly criticized Ukraine's policy in Crimea in the State Duma on Friday.

### Kuchma Reveals Power Struggle With Speaker Moroz

*LD1404141295 Kiev UNIAR in Ukrainian 1130 GMT 14 Apr 95*

[FBIS Translated Text] Kiev [No date as received]—Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma held a two-hour meeting with Supreme Council deputies at 1900 yesterday. Informed sources say about 200 deputies from center-right, centrist, communist, and socialist factions attended the meeting.

The president told the deputies that his relations with [Supreme Council Chairman] Oleksandr Moroz have deteriorated. He said Moroz did not seek his consent for the government's resignation which came as a complete surprise to Kuchma. He accused Moroz of trying to become the head of state and to subordinate the president to the Supreme Council.

Commenting on Deputy Steshenko's speech in parliament in which he accused the president of trying to impose authoritarian rule, Kuchma said Moroz knew about it in advance. He said he saw Steshenko and Deputy Petro Symonenko come out of Moroz' office before the session began.

The president stressed that he continued making efforts to improve relations with the parliamentary speaker but they were not reciprocated. "Moroz either does not invite me to important meetings, or does it late at night when I have no time to prepare for the meeting," Kuchma said. He expressed regret at the delay in the passage of the law on power which was also caused by Moroz' trip to Korea.

If the law is not approved in its intended form, the president will ask parliament to put it to a referendum. If the Supreme Council refuses, he will appeal to the nation directly. The president is aware that he may lose the referendum, but if the power issue is not resolved, forces of the left will assume power in the winter, Kuchma said.

The president said he plans to nominate Yevhen Marchuk for the post of prime minister.

## Parliament Denies Crimea Right of Legislative Initiative

*LD1404154495 Kiev UNIAN in Ukrainian 1340 GMT 14 Apr 95*

[FBIS Translated Text] Kiev [no date as received]—During the second reading of the law on power in the Supreme Council of Ukraine on 14 April, deputies voted against the proposal to grant the Crimean parliament the right of legislative initiative. The proposal had been forwarded by Deputy Volodymyr Butkevych. According to Article 15 approved by the parliament, the right to propose Ukrainian legislation belongs to the Ukrainian Supreme Council and its standing commissions, the president, the Supreme Court, the High Court of Arbitration, and the Ukrainian Cabinet of Ministers.

Deputies also approved an article that forbids them to engage in any other profession while in parliament, except for teaching, research, and other creative occupation.

During the discussion of Article 18 on the powers of the Supreme Council, deputies voted for the Supreme Council to form the National Security Council and approve its members, as well as members of the Central Electoral Commission. Under the original version of the law proposed by President Leonid Kuchma, members of the Central Electoral Commission were nominated by the president.

The Supreme Council deferred voting on Clause 15 of Article 18, referring it to the conciliatory commission. The clause says that parliament approves presidential nominations for the posts of Supreme Court, High Court of Arbitration, and National Bank chairmen and has the right to dismiss them.

The Supreme Council deferred voting on the procedure for impeachment of president until the third reading of the law. According to the proposed draft, impeachment can be initiated once the Constitutional Court, at the parliament's enquiry, finds that the president has committed a serious crime.

## Kuchma Says He Will Not Dissolve Parliament

*LD1404172695 Kiev UNIAR in Ukrainian 1535 GMT 14 Apr 95*

[FBIS Translated Text] Kiev [no date as received]—In an interview with UNIAR, People's Deputy of Ukraine Taras Stetskiv disclosed the content of the meeting held between Ukraine's president and people's deputies on 13 April. According to Taras Stetskiv, the president accused left-wingers of fanning hatred against him in Ukraine's eastern regions. In the opinion of Leonid Kuchma, there may be three ways out of the crisis that has evolved in connection with the adoption of the draft law "On power and local self-government": The draft may be approved in the second reading; a constitution for Ukraine may be adopted; a green light may be given to confrontation.

Meanwhile, the president said: "I am not going to dissolve parliament." The president will act within the legal framework. Taras Stetskiv does not rule out that parliament will pass the law "On power and local self-government," but its wording will not be acceptable to the president.

According to the people's deputy, it would be expedient to submit Ukraine's draft constitution for national discussion in May. Instead, the president proposed that the issue of confidence/no confidence in himself and the Supreme Council be submitted for a plebiscite. "This will yield no result whatsoever," Taras Stetskiv pointed out. "Under conditions of the economic crisis, none of the bodies of power will receive a vote of confidence. For example, what is to be done if the president wins 40 percent of the votes and the Supreme Council 32 percent? There will be a stalemate. An erroneous opinion has been imposed on the president as regards the issues that should be submitted for a plebiscite," Taras Stetskiv believes.

## Crimean Resolutions Running Counter to Law Rescinded

*LD1404191895 Kiev UNIAN in Ukrainian 1530 GMT 14 Apr 95*

[FBIS Translated Text] Kiev—The president of Ukraine today issued a decree, rescinding a number of resolutions passed by the government of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea which run counter to Ukraine's legislation.

Five resolutions by the Crimean government have been rescinded: "On the excise duty rates" of 5 December 1994; "On economic sanctions connected with the consumption of water, gas, heat, and energy;" "On banning export of grain products, cattle, pigs, fish products, livestock products, sunflower seeds, soya, vegetable oil, and vegetables grown in open ground or in greenhouses;" "On the indexation of payments for the use of land in Crimea, and the procedure of making payments in 1995;" and "On the excise duty rates" of 29 December 1994.

## 'Secret Driving Force' Behind Cabinet's Dismissal

*WS1704090095 Kiev VSEUKRAINISKIYE VEDOMOSTI in Russian 11 Apr 95 p 3*

[Commentary by Serhiy Nesterenko: "Secret Driving Force Behind the Government's Dismissal"—first paragraph is VSEUKRAINISKIYE VEDOMOSTI introduction]

[FBIS Translated Text] **We cannot help but be surprised by the people deputies' single-mindedness and the lightning speed with which they have made a decision to oust the government. The same refers to the unexpected transformation of the government's report, which was included on the agenda, into the issue of the Cabinet of Ministers' resignation. The vote [to oust the cabinet] itself was unprecedented in our legislature: The deputies, who used to discuss an ordinary resolution for hours, dismissed the government with practically no discussion, even though a week ago many people's deputies, who represented various political trends, regarded such a move as inexpedient. It is difficult to explain the sudden "death" of the government by a purely spontaneous outburst of deputies' antipathy toward the Cabinet of Ministers. It is quite obvious that genuine reasons should be looked for among the behind-the-scenes squabbles over power.**

To understand what secret driving force made the deputies issue a verdict on the Cabinet of Ministers, we will try to answer the eternal question: "Who profits from this situation?"

The "Reform" faction was the first to declare the need to dismiss the government. Its interest in this issue is understandable: There are more highly qualified economists among the "Reform" faction than in any other faction. Therefore, "Reform" has more chances of having its representatives in the new cabinet.

For the "Center," "Unity," and "Interregional Deputies' Group," this factor could be a stimulus of lesser importance. This factor was of no importance at all for "Rukh" and "Statehood," whose chances of "winning" government posts are practically reduced to zero. Therefore, it was no surprise that at the beginning, "Reform" had a small number of allies: The forces of the right hesitated, the forces of the left definitely opposed this proposal, and the centrist forces were divided on the issue. Therefore, the position of the Cabinet of Ministers—that managed to prove itself as the most efficient government since Ukrainian independence was declared three years ago—seemed sufficiently solid. So, what made deputies unite to oust the government?

The "resigned" government differed qualitatively from the previous governments. The "ousted" government was comprised of many highly qualified experts and—as Deputy Volodymyr Marchenko put it—of the "people with independent judgment." Yevhen Marchuk's immediate promotion up the Cabinet of Ministers' career ladder made many Ukrainian politicians look at the government with new eyes, to regard it not as the body that obediently fulfilled the will of the Supreme Council and the president, but as a sufficiently powerful political force, able to play an independent game. Besides, Yevhen Marchuk was obviously unfit for the role of a "scapegoat," which was perfectly played by Vitaliy Masol and Vitaliy Fokin. Yevhen Marchuk also cannot be regarded as either a member of a presidential team or of Oleksandr Moroz's entourage. On a political chessboard, Marchuk was an absolutely independent chessman, able to checkmate the remainder of the chessmen. Meanwhile, there is no room at the top of the Olympus of power. Therefore, it is completely logical to suppose that nothing other than a desire to remove Marchuk and a truly independent cabinet from power became the primary hidden reasons for the government's dismissal.

Who, however, had the greatest interest in all this? Whose activities were blocked and who was threatened by such an increased government role? Primarily, the Supreme Council, because there always existed an ever-increasing disparity of views on market reform between the Cabinet of Ministers and the legislature. In addition, according to the draft law on power, put forward by Leonid Kuchma, the government will be subordinated primarily to the president. The establishment of the tandem of single-minded bodies—the president and the Cabinet of Ministers—could greatly restrict the legislature's powers and foist a secondary role on it. There is one more, purely personal factor. Oleksandr Moroz, who lost last year's presidential elections, will hardly settle for his defeat, because there are no political leaders who would not desire to gain complete power in the state. The strengthening of Marchuk's position has automatically reduced Moroz's chances of becoming president in the foreseeable future, because many politicians regard Yevhen Kyrylovych as most prospective successor to Kuchma.

It is interesting to note that very similar events are currently taking place in Russia. The State Duma is considering the government's resignation, and, in the long run, that was triggered by the fact that First Deputy Prime Minister Oleg Soskovets has gained weighty political capital and has become one of the most likely candidates to replace Yeltsin.

At first sight, by removing the Cabinet of Ministers from the political arena, Ukraine's Government has achieved its goal. However, is this genuinely the case? As is known, the current government will keep its powers until a new government is nominated. According to Oleksandr Razumkov, first assistant to President Kuchma, candidates for posts of prime minister and other cabinet ministers cannot be put forward until the law on power is passed. This changes the situation dramatically. If the law on power is adopted, Supreme Council powers will be considerably reduced, and the president will receive an opportunity to form the government according to his own taste. Many ministers, who were ousted by the Supreme Council, will most likely be nominated again, because it was the president who nominated them. This is confirmed by the responses of most ministers. Judging from the quiet tone of their commentaries, they do not doubt that they will keep their portfolios. For example, First Deputy Prime Minister Viktor Pynsenyk qualified the Cabinet of Ministers' resignation as a "normal and civilized event." Ihor Mityukov in turn stated that it will be much easier for the resigned government to work, because they will not have to report to the deputies.

By the way, in his current report to the Supreme Council, Leonid Kuchma refrained from sharp criticism of most ministers. Therefore, everything will remain the same. Moreover, members of the new government will be more loyal to the president than the previous ones. Therefore, the deputies' attack on the government proved to be a ruse. In fact, the Cabinet of Ministers' resignation has not changed anything.

## Crimean Tatars Blast Kiev on Election Ban

*LD1504161995 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1548 GMT 15 Apr 86*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Lev Ryabchikov]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Simferopol April 15 TASS—The majlis of Crimean Tatars denounced a Ukrainian law which virtually bans them from participation in the upcoming local elections.

Under the law, only those Crimean Tatars will be allowed to participate in the elections who returned to the Crimea before November 1991. Those who returned after that date will not be able to vote because they are not citizens of Ukraine. There are over 64,000 such repatriates in the Crimea.

In addition, in order to form national constituencies, over 300,000 individual applications written in a special form need to be submitted to electoral commissions within less than two weeks.

"There is no other Ukrainian law on elections which would contain such conditions. This law makes the right of the repatriates to be appointed and vote in additional constituencies a declaratory one," a statement issued by the majlis on Saturday said.

## Shmarov Addresses Defense Ministry Military Collegium

*LD1404211395 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in Ukrainian 1900 GMT 14 Apr 95*

[FBIS Translated Text] The Ukrainian Defense Ministry's military collegium met today under the chairmanship of Defense Minister Valeriy Shmarov. The collegium considered urgent measures to consolidate military discipline and undivided authority, and improve the moral and psychological state of personnel.

The defense minister paid attention to specific shortcomings in the activities of relevant headquarters, directorates and separate officials. He outlined the priorities in work to overcome the negative phenomena. The collegium arrived at a conclusion that the situation can only be changed by decisive actions by all categories of the military. This refers to rigorous implementation of the military regulations, orders and instructions, and conscientious attitude to one's duties.

## Official Views Black Sea Fleet Financing

*WS1704103095 Kiev VSEUKRAINSKIYE VEDOMOSTI in Russian 6 Apr 95 p 5*

[Interview with Deputy Finance Minister Mykola Syvulskyy by Mykhaylo Romantsov; place and date not given: "The Black Sea Fleet: Ukraine Pays the Piper, Russia Calls the Tune" —first paragraph is VSEUKRAINSKIYE VEDOMOSTI introduction]

[FBIS Translated Text] During his recent visit to Crimea, Konstantin Zatulin, chairman of a Russian State Duma commission, accused Ukraine of refusing to finance the Black Sea Fleet [BSF], which is under the joint command of Ukraine and Russia.

[Romantsov] Are those accusations justified?

[Syvulskyy] I could be brief and say: No. Our readers, however, would hardly be satisfied with such a laconic answer. Indeed, we have not allocated any funds for the BSF's maintenance since the beginning of 1995. Why are Mr. Zatulin's accusations unjust then? Because Ukraine is ready to participate in the financing of the Fleet, but only if its status as a body managed by both Ukraine and Russia is truly observed.

[Romantsov] However, is this not the Fleet's exact status, as envisioned by the agreement between Ukraine and the Russian Federation signed in Yalta in 1992? BSF Commander Eduard Baltin, too, was appointed by a joint resolution of the presidents of the two states.

[Syvulskyy] The Ukrainian side is interested in joint command of the BSF. In reality, however, we see a different situation: The Fleet is actually being managed by Moscow. This is a violation of the earlier achieved agreements. Just look for yourself.

The Yalta agreement stipulated that in the transitional period (until 1996) the Fleet would be manned equally by draftees from Ukraine and Russia. Still, since the spring draft in 1993 the Fleet has been replenished primarily by Russian citizens, and beginning in the fall of 1994, virtually no Ukrainian citizens have been called to serve in the BSF. The Fleet's personnel wear Russian Army uniforms. Monetary allowances are paid in accordance with Russian norms and then exchanged into karbovantsi, which is a violation of the agreements on accepting unified norms and kinds of monetary allowances. Without coordination with the Ukrainian side, new unique ships and armaments are being transferred to Russian fleets, moved to Russia, and sold abroad, including to help clear Russia's foreign debts. There are many such examples.

[Romantsov] However, Ukrainian citizens, too, are currently serving in the Fleet, and this cannot be ignored when resolving the issues of financing.

[Syvulskyy] We kept that fact in mind when discussing the issues of financing. While in 1992 expenditures on BSF maintenance were all but totally covered by Ukraine (30.4 billion rubles, which was 85.2 percent of all the expenditures), beginning in 1993 we limited our payments to 50 percent of servicemen's monetary allowances and employees' wages, without taking into account the difference in exchange rates applied by the Russian side. Some 25.9 billion karbovantsi [K] were allocated toward that goal in 1993. Another K23 billion was earmarked to clear the Fleet's debt to Ukrainian shipyards. The aggregate volume of funds allocated in 1993 stood at K46.9 billion. Some K30 billion was allocated in 1994 to pay monetary allowances and wages. The money was paid from state coffers, despite the fact that the agreement on financing the BSF had not yet been signed. We have drawn up such a draft agreement envisioning Ukraine's commitment to undertake expenditures on the maintenance of servicemen who are Ukrainian citizens and serve on BSF ships.

[Romantsov] You should agree that the figures cited by you indicate a reduction in Ukraine's financing of the Fleet: The ruble in 1992 was much more valuable than the karbovanets in 1994.

[Syvulskyy] Those figures only indicate a relative reduction in our share of the direct financing of the Fleet. However, there is indirect financing, too. The Fleet is deployed on Ukrainian territory; it uses our natural resources and infrastructure. The state spends large sums of money maintaining municipal services and its social sector, which serves the personnel. This entails large subsidies from the state coffers.

[Romantsov] By paying taxes, however, the Fleet contributes to the formation of Ukraine's budget.

[Syvulskyy] Servicemen are exempt from paying taxes, and the Fleet's payment discipline leaves a lot to be desired as far as taxes are concerned. The debt for unpaid taxes was K58.7 billion at the beginning of 1995, and by 1 March 1995 it reached K548 billion. Nonpayment for services rendered and products manufactured by Ukrainian companies is another form of indirect financing. Those sums continue to grow: The debt to shipyards amassed in 1994 alone for repairs, upgrading, and servicing of ships reached K150 billion.

Thus, if we are looking for the truth and are not driven by political considerations, then the issue of Ukraine's participation in the financing of the BSF should be considered in a complex manner, taking into account all sources of both direct and indirect financing. Incidentally, this approach was advocated by the working groups of experts set up to discuss the issue of mutual payments related to the resolution of the BSF problem. While examining that problem in December 1994-February 1995, specialists representing the two sides arrived at the conclusion that the principle of equality had been observed with regard to the financing of the BSF in 1992-1994. I can only regret that Mr. Zatulin is not aware of that conclusion.

[Romantsov] Does the Russian side take part in subsidizing Crimea's socioeconomic sector?

[Syvulskyy] It does not. We are dealing with that problem on our own. The Sevastopol leadership is actively working on that aspect. The budget of Sevastopol carries the principal burden of subsidies and expenditures related to the stationing of the BSF. The practical resolution of that issue, however, depends on the division of the Fleet and on the legal acknowledgement of the fact that Russia's Fleet is stationed in Crimea. In accordance with the Yalta agreement, the Fleet has to be divided by the end of 1995, and relevant steps have recently been made in that direction at the interstate level.

[Romantsov] What volumes of financial assistance on the part of Russia can the residents of Sevastopol, as well as Crimeans in general, expect after the division of the Fleet?

[Syvulskyy] First, we have to specify the forms of such financing. Those may include lease payments for using the shore infrastructure, land, and water areas, as well as compensation for inflicting damage to the environment, and deductions for environmental protection. The Sevastopol City Council estimated that annual costs of leasing a base to the BSF will be around $285.9 million.

Those costs are definitely undervalued. A Ukrainian team of experts has calculated the costs involved in leasing the base in accordance with the world's practice, taking into account all the components. The lease payment will depend on the principles of the Fleet's division, the type and size of on-shore facilities, land, and water areas.

[Romantsov] I think that our readers would like to know at least an approximate annual lease price.

[Syvulskyy] If the Fleet were to be divided in line with the Zavidovo agreement, the price would be $875 million (all calculations were based on a 10-year lease). If the Massandra protocol were to be applied, the price would be around $2.25 billion. Under the agreement of 15 April 1994 the sum would amount to $2.5, billion and under the option suggested by the Ukrainian side—to $2.23 billion.

[Romantsov] Thus, this is how much money Ukraine, in particular Crimea, is losing because of the joint command of the Fleet?

[Syvulskyy] Yes, although the exact rate of the lease payment will be determined in the course of negotiations and after reaching the necessary compromises (the rate can be lowered, for instance, once prices for energy resources are lowered for Ukrainian consumers and are brought down to the level of Russia's domestic prices).

[Romantsov] Why is the gap so great between the estimated lease costs envisioned by the different agreements?

[Syvulskyy] This is pursuant to Item "A" of Article 2 of the aforementioned agreement, which provides for the division of armaments, ammunition, hardware, as well as buildings and on-shore infrastructure facilities.

[Romantsov] In other words, the infrastructure would be transferred to Russia and lease payments would not be levied?

[Syvulskyy] This is the Russian side's interpretation of that tenet.

[Romantsov] This, however, runs counter to Ukraine's legislation and agreements on the division of CIS property. Why did Ukraine sign that document?

[Syvulskyy] You should address that question to Leonid Kravchuk.

[Romantsov] You anticipate payments for Russia's leasing of the infrastructure and mutual clearance of debts according to the results of the Fleet's division. However, will there be anything to lease and divide? The press has cited cases of facilities being plundered, their transfer to private lessees and owners, and the selling of Fleet property.

[Syvulskyy] Those things do occur due to the fact that the issues of the BSF's subordination and command have not been regulated. I hope that along with discussing the political aspects of regulating the Fleet's problems, the sides will not ignore the issues of economic and financial discipline, because wealth earned through the hard labor of the citizens of the two states is being wasted. The initiative, of course, rests with lawmakers, given that, according to law, they are authorized to manage property.

[Romantsov] The Fleet's problems are inseparable from more general problems of Sevastopol and Crimea. Concluding the discussion of that issue, could you elucidate the financial aspects of relations between Ukraine's national budget and the budget of Crimea? Do we not give less to Crimea than we ought to give?

[Syvulskyy] Quite the contrary. The per capita use of budget funds in Crimea greatly exceeds the average figure for Ukraine. While in Ukraine that sum amounted to K430,000 in 1993, it was K553,000 in Crimea and K945,000 in Sevastopol. The difference was even greater in 1994: K3.73 million, K6.627 million, and K6.827 million respectively. Only the residents of Kiev had a better indicator—K7.535 million—but this is a trend typical of all capital cities.

Therefore, Russia's claims, to the effect that it covers all the Fleet's expenses, while Ukraine has given up on financing the Fleet, do not stand up to criticism. On the contrary, Ukraine, Russia, and particularly Crimea will only gain if the resolution of the Fleet's problems is regarded from the perspective of economic advantages instead of purely political trends.

## Army Security Chief on Guarding Nuclear Arms

*AU1404153695 Kiev MOLOD UKRAYINY in Ukrainian 13 Apr 95 p 2*

[Interview with Valeriy Pavlovych Andreyev, head of the Military Counterintelligence Main Department within the Strategic Missile Troops, by Viktor Melnyk; place and date not given: "Will a Herostratos Reach the Nuclear Torch?"]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] [Melnyk] Valeriy Pavlovych, everybody will probably agree with the old saying common in the army: Sappers may only make a mistake once. However, times have changed, and those servicemen who service missiles with nuclear warheads have no right to err even once: The consequences may be horrendous. Still, those people who work at nuclear facilities are living beings and not robots; they are people with their weaknesses and blemishes. Doesn't this lower the level of nuclear safety?

[Andreyev] As regards the very notion "nuclear safety," it has several aspects, which cannot be formulated in a single sentence. One of the major tasks that both the military command and the security service are faced with is prevention of extraordinary events during routine servicing of both the main parts of those missiles that carry nuclear warheads and the space vehicles proper. There can be no trifles there. Any deviation from order that may seem insignificant to a layman is inadmissible. That is why we continually watch the course of this work and try to prevent officers or warrant officers from developing a routine approach to it. The amount of this work is enormous: fitting together the main parts, transporting them to storage depots, and preparing them to the lower stage of readiness. If an officer becomes used to this, he may want to simplify a certain procedure or change the sequence of operations. Clearly, at first this will not lead to undesirable consequences, but if today or tomorrow a slight deviation is allowed to happen, this may, the day after tomorrow, result in the most serious and irreparable events.

For example, last fall we noticed signs of such a trend. In one of the units, work was done with considerable violations: There was no mandatory supervision by the command of those operations. This did not lead to any extraordinary event, but the very fact was regarded as a severe violation, and the culprits were punished, because individual officials who issued the corresponding instruction took upon themselves functions they were not entitled to. There is a strict procedure for issuing orders, and it must be adhered to.

[Melnyk] All of those things took place, so to speak, in stationary conditions. Yet, nuclear disarmament and transportation of the main parts of missiles to Russia, in conformity with agreements, considerably complicates the situation and adds more difficulties....

[Andreyev] Certainly! Both last year and this year, operational escort for withdrawing nuclear ammunitions remains the most important task and not just for our department, but for other structures as well—territorial, railroad, and military bodies of Ukraine's Security Service [SBU]. Many services are involved here. Geography is also quite extensive. If one follows the routes of these convoys, they encompass an overwhelming majority of oblasts, perhaps with the exception of several. We have an accord with the Russian Federal Counterintelligence Service [FSK] on joint measures for operational provision of such transports. By now, we have performed more than 20 such transportations, all of them successfully. All the specialists involved showed very high responsibility, efficiency, and fast reaction to all problems. We also kept strictly technical problems in our field of vision: The state of rails and the condition of the special rail cars, in particular their running gear. That is why not even preconditions for extraordinary events could arise.

[Melnyk] Do you have interaction and mutual understanding with the military command?

[Andreyev] Without such coordination, there can be no talk of doing our job. We reveal, in an operational manner, irregularities or preconditions for their emergence, but it is army officers who eliminate the faults. All of them realize that any undesirable consequences may affect them and their families; that is why there are no collisions here. We have a perfect rapport, and sometimes servicemen themselves notice where problematic situations may arise and ask for our assistance.

[Melnyk] However, minor negligence or an element of habit, undesirable as they may be, do not constitute such danger as does nuclear terrorism or open attempts to seize nuclear ammunitions.

[Andreyev] This aspect of nuclear safety is largely relevant to our work, because the problems discussed above may be tackled by the command itself—we mainly secure their actions. The same applies to the moral and psychological climate in military collectives which we must be aware of. Our work is operational in nature; life shows that sometimes there may be—and are—people who may for some reason want to take possession of nuclear ammunitions or, after gaining access to them, advance certain demands. It does not matter whether personal or political demands. Consequences that may result are the only thing that matters. We will not consider a situation when somebody wants to get to the launch panel—nobody will ever succeed in launching a nuclear- armed missile without authorization. If somebody is simply eager to get to the nuclear warhead in its place of storage, this is doomed to failure from the very start. The protection level is very high, and an accidental person will not be able to do anything there. There certainly are specialists with the necessary expertise and skills. There may be people among them who may want to play with a nuclear torch—for example, people with a Herostratos [legendary figure who sought glory by burning down a temple] complex or with some psychological deviations. We never forget about this.

[Melnyk] I know that, during the height of the military actions in Groznyy, the security at nuclear facilities in Ukraine was particularly tight. That was not accidental, was it?

[Andreyev] No, it wasn't. We were tipped off by the Russian FSK. We even knew about the quantity and numerical strength of the groups of militants who had taken an interest in both our military units and atomic plants. As you see, the measures taken were efficient. However, this confirmed once again that nuclear blackmail and nuclear terrorism are possible.

Closely connected with this is yet another problem: Some persons take an interest in radioactive materials for purely mercenary reasons: To steal and later sell. They will never steal a nuclear warhead, but may steal those measuring devices that use radioactive materials.

[Melnyk] I remember once writing about the theft of a container with radioactive materials from the Vinnytsya Chemical Plant. The thieves were detained as they tried to sell the container to a foreigner.

[Andreyev] It is a very serious problem, and the leadership of the service also instructs us to work in that direction. The theft mentioned by you was, after all, from a civilian facility, where no such facts had been recorded before. We are better prepared to deal with such a situation, because the security at military facilities with radioactive substances has traditionally been very tight.

[Melnyk] However, it is not only nuclear materials, but also highly toxic components of missile fuel that present a hazard. They are also suitable for carrying out acts of terrorism, as attested to by the recent tragedy in the Tokyo subway. It is impossible to steal a nuclear warhead, but one may pour a chemical substance into a vessel....

[Andreyev] Let me add that chemical substances, especially in emergency situations that may arise during their transportation by railroad, are much more dangerous than main parts of missiles. It is practically impossible to cause a nuclear warhead to explode—it is very reliably protected. At the same time, an accident involving a cistern with components of missile fuel may lead to an ecological catastrophe, since by its properties the main component heptyl acts as an effective poisonous substance, even though it is not meant as such. To begin with, it is extremeluy toxic; second, it is chemically very stable—it may only be decomposed at the plant. I would also put transportation of such substances in the category of very important tasks for both us, military counterintelligence officers, and other structures, because we will have to remove more than 10,000 metric tons of such substances from nuclear facilities. They will not be reprocessed, but will be stored in special places to be later used in space programs. Their transportation is presently the most sensitive point.

As regards the possibility of stealing heptyl, this is not easy either. It cannot be taken directly from a missile, and during routine work and pumping from one tank to another, various systems of safety and control are envisaged. Besides, we conduct much work in order to prevent an emergency situation or a possible theft from happening. Besides, who needs to steal it? Heptyl has no commercial value....

[Melnyk] There is a commodity valued much higher—information....

[Andreyev] As far as the SBU is concerned, this is the most specific aspect of nuclear safety. We are not only tasked with preventing enemy agents from penetrating our technological or other secrets, but also with protecting the bearers of those secrets. This is an extremely important issue, since a number of countries—Iraq, Libya, and North Korea among them—are trying to create their own nuclear weapons. They are not only ready to pay huge sums of money for information, but also to invite our specialists to work at their nuclear centers. Such prospects are very real now, since with the dismissal of our officers as a result of the reduction of strategic forces, they have an opportunity to go abroad, where they may find employment in accordance with their profession.

This problem was not so acute before. Today, we have put this aspect of our work in the foreground. We see that we are the only ones to deal with this problem. However, there also are other serious problems. For example, a person leaves the army and wants to go abroad (for example to that same Libya). The legal aspect of this issue is not settled; no legal norms forbid our specialists to work at foreign nuclear centers.

You understand that international security will not gain from this. This problem is not for the SBU to deal with. It is up to the political leadership and the international community. One of the ways out is to create in Kiev an international center that would retrain missile officers within the framework of conversion.

[Melnyk] In addition to specific tasks, the security service also combats crime. Is combating organized crime and its expansion to the army among the tasks of the military counterintelligence?

[Andreyev] Let us agree that our conversation will only be about serious violations of law, and not about thefts of a petrol tank or other trifles. Our work involves operations within the framework of "K" subunits. However, facts indicate that we are too late. If we had worked in this direction back in 1992, there would not have been so much pilfering in the army. Experience shows that in 1992, when some people enjoyed the luxury of their new influential posts and others did not know what to do with the huge legacy obtained from the Soviet Army, people with large shoulder boards quickly realized how to profit from the situation and how to get rich. [passage omitted]

[Melnyk] There is yet another way for unscrupulous servicemen to make a profit—the trade in weapons and ammunitions. Are there such cases in the missile troops?

[Andreyev] This question is invariably within our field of vision. Operational experience shows that criminal elements' interest in weapons, ammunitions, and explosives which are available in the army remains high. In that same Kirovohrad, we uncovered a group of servicemen who tried to sell 20 kilograms of stolen trotyl. A similar incident occurred in Kamyanets-Podilskyy, where military cadets stole seven kilograms of trotyl. Recently in Khmelnytskyy, soldiers, taking advantage of the lack of control, stole quite a number of cartridges for submachineguns and were already looking for a buyer. We worked efficiently: They came to... our plainclothes officer to sell the cartridges. In general, not a single submachinegun and not a single pistol from those units, which we service have enlarged the arsenal of the criminal world.

[Melnyk] Until this point, we have not touched upon internal problems of the security service, problems that exist and that are very serious. According to my data, last year more than 800 officers left the SBU voluntarily. Moreover, those were not from among the worst specialists. Perhaps, this largely applies to territorial administrations....

[Andreyev] I would not say so.... All those symptoms that are observed in territorial bodies can also be seen in the military counterintelligence. We suffer from the same ailments, although probably, in view of certain circumstances, in a milder form. We do not have such a turnover of personnel, but still the process of renewal is incredibly fast. In one of our subunits, about 60 percent of the personnel have a length of service not greater than two years. It is a serious problem at all levels, and neither the supreme leadership nor the service command conceal it.

[Melnyk] Will it not so happen that the best specialists will find themselves in security departments of various firms, including those engaged in illegal activities? At any rate, payment is good there, and it cannot be ruled out that your former colleagues will work against you....

[Andreyev] Such a formulation of the question is like a low blow... We know of some such officers, but they do not conduct active work against us. So far, the only damage done by them is in that they are enticing others and are placing our people in an ambiguous situation: Either to dedicate themselves to work or to submit their resignations and go. Besides, we are compelled to give much more attention to the internal security of the service, and this distracts attention from main tasks.

[Melnyk] We have now come closer to the question that is intrinsic in the activity of any special service. I mean the network of agents and related matters. If, for example, you need an agent to penetrate a particular criminal group, you must be ready to face a situation that he will be tested there, and tested mainly by perpetrating a particular crime. In that case, he will become a criminal and may himself go to jail. Are your agents protected in such cases by some legislative acts?

[Andreyev] It is one of the most important and topical problems. The current legislation provides certain guarantees for social and legal protection of those persons who participate in criminal or court proceedings (I mean the relevant law), but does not provide guarantees for participants in the operational process. The absence of distinct mechanisms for protection of both our officers and our helpers is very acutely felt, primarily in the work along the line of combating organized crime and corruption. Nor does the institution of necessary defense or extreme need always help in this situation. Incidentally, in conditions of the economic crisis, implementation of measures for ensuring safety and social and legal protection of officers and their families, as stipulated by the law "On State Protection of Judicial and Law-Enforcement Personnel," is also problematic. [passage omitted]

## Economic Issues

### Government To Stem Flow of Investment Capital Abroad

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[FBIS Translated Text] Kiev—Ukraine's Cabinet of Ministers has prepared a draft law "On making amendments and additions to the law of Ukraine 'On the foreign investment regime.'"

The document proposes to introduce a national investment regime which would apply similar terms to both foreign and Ukrainian investors, Ukraine's Cabinet of Ministers told UNIAN.

The draft envisages the abolition of tax holidays and benefits to small businesses. It is planned that foreign investors who pay their taxes in Ukraine will be exempt from paying taxes in their own countries.

These measures intend to obstruct the outflow of foreign capital from Ukraine since, according to Ukraine's Economy Ministry, in the first half of 1994 the Ukrainian state budget failed to receive 800 billion karbovantsi from joint ventures.

### Economic Statistics for Jan-Feb 95

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[Report by the Main Directorate for the Issues of Economic Reform of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine: "The Economy of Ukraine in January and February 1995"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Despite a measure of stabilization in the output of industrial production in February (growth by 1.2 percent compared to January of this year), a continuing decline in output in most sectors of the national economy, a deterioration of the financial standing of enterprises and organizations, and the exacerbation of the payment crisis were characteristic of the economic situation.

According to preliminary data, the gross domestic product fell by 12 percent in January and February compared to the corresponding period of 1994.

The volume of industrial production fell by 14.1 percent compared to the January-February period of 1994. The decline was particularly significant at enterprises of light industry (42.2 percent), machine-building and metal processing (28.1 percent), the fuel industry (15.9 percent), the construction materials industry (19.2 percent), as well as in Ternopol Oblast (44.7 percent), Kherson Oblast (36.1 percent), Transcarpathian Oblast (31.7 percent), and the Autonomous Republic of Crimea (30.1 percent).

The effort to sign contracts for the delivery of products and the receipt of material and technical resources in 1995 has been proceeding somewhat better than last year. As of 10 February, contracts for the delivery of self-produced products by industrial enterprises had been signed for 42.9 percent of the projected volume to be delivered (in 1994—38.5 percent); contracts for the delivery of material and technical resources had been signed for 45.6 percent of the volume needed (in 1994—34 percent).

#### Implementation of Budgets

In keeping with the Resolution of the Supreme Council of Ukraine of 6 December 1994 No. 277/94-VR, funding for state expenditures before the passage of the State Budget for 1995 was provided in January of this year up to the level of expenditures in the previous month.

The consolidated budget of Ukraine for January was implemented on the revenue side in the amount of 80.5 trillion karbovantsy, which came to 74.9 percent of the December 1994 level.

The expenditures of the consolidated budget were financed in the amount of 82.1 trillion karbovantsy (69.2 percent of the December 1994 level). Of the total amount of expenditures, 14.8 trillion karbovantsy (18 percent of total expenditures) was spent for measures to provide social protection for the population; 21 trillion karbovantsy (26 percent) was spent to finance social and cultural measures; 8.2 trillion karbovantsy (10 percent) was spent to finance the national economy; and 5.8 trillion karbovantsy (7 percent) was spent on defense. Expenditures associated with the post-disaster cleanup in Chernobyl came to 3 trillion karbovantsy, and expenditures of the Pension Fund—16.4 trillion karbovantsy.

In January the revenues of the state budget of Ukraine came to 57.5 trillion karbovantsy (27.5 percent less than in December 1994), and expenditures came to 61.2 trillion karbovantsy (32.1 percent less).

**Operation of the Banking System**

The volume of credit extended by the banking system to the economy of Ukraine in domestic currency (loan debt) came to 267 trillion karbovantsy as of 1 February (2 percent more than at the beginning of the year). Of this, credit from the National Bank accounted for 141.6 trillion karbovantsy (excluding refinancing for commercial banks). Of the total volume of credit extended by the National Bank, credit to the government which was used to cover the budget deficit and to meet other needs of the government accounted for 141.1 trillion karbovantsy (99.6 percent).

The weighted average interest rate on credit from commercial banks came to 220.7 percent in January compared to 204.7 percent in December 1994 (in January 1994—310 percent).

The weighted average interest rate on deposits in commercial banks in January 1995 increased to 144.9 percent compared to 139.5 percent in December of last year (it came to 224 percent in January 1994).

**Financial Standing of Enterprises and Organizations**

Accounts payable by enterprises and organizations of Ukraine to the economic entities in CIS countries and the Baltic states increased in January 1995 by 39 percent and reached 105.7 trillion karbovantsy as of the beginning of February; accounts receivable, respectively, grew by 7 percent and reached 22.4 trillion karbovantsy.

Accounts payable by Ukrainian enterprises to trade partners from Russia grew by 32 percent in January and came to 93.7 trillion rubles as of 1 February. Accounts payable to Turkmenistan increased by a factor of 6.9 and reached 8.5 trillion karbovantsy.

The volume of accounts payable among the enterprises and organizations of Ukraine in January grew by 32 percent, and as of the beginning of February came to 903.7 trillion karbovantsy; the volume of accounts receivable, respectively, grew by 31 percent and reached 640.5 trillion karbovantsy. The amount by which accounts payable exceed accounts receivable reached 263.2 trillion karbovantsy.

Arrears in accounts payable by enterprises and organizations on mutual settlements and on bank loans increased by 42.5 percent in January and on 1 February came to 241.8 trillion karbovantsy, of which debt in mutual settlements between enterprises and organizations came to 222.6 trillion karbovantsy (92 percent) and payments in arrears on bank loans came to 19.2 trillion karbovantsy (8 percent).

**Inflationary Processes**

According to preliminary data, wholesale prices for industrial products in the first two months of this year increased by 43.9 percent (compared to December 1994); in February prices increased by 11.4 percent compared to January.

In January and February, procurement prices for agricultural products grew by 64 percent.

Compared to December of last year, prices for construction and assembly work increased by 58 percent; compared to January, prices increased by 16 percent in February.

Since the beginning of the year, the cost of freight carriage by rail has increased by 74.2 percent and by highway transportation—by 32.2 percent. Passenger fares in public-use transportation have gone up 83.2 percent.

The rate of inflation on the consumer goods market came to 118.1 percent (in January of this year—121.1 percent).

**On the Functioning of Individual Sectors of the National Economy**

In February, enterprises of the coal industry improved their operation somewhat and met 94.3 percent of their targets for coal production (in January—92 percent).

In January and February, 36.5 billion kw-hours of electricity was generated, of which 16 billion kw-hours (44 percent) by nuclear power stations, which was, respectively, 0.2 percent less and 11.3 percent more than in January and February 1994.

The volume of primary processing of crude oil declined considerably this year. In the first two months of the year, 1.908 million metric tons of oil were processed, or 21 percent less than in January and February 1994. As a result, the production of diesel fuel declined by 4.9 percent and that of heavy fuel oil—by 3.4 percent. The production of motor gasoline increased by 6 percent.

Compared to January of this year, the volume of output of the products of chemical and petrochemical industry increased by 2.8 percent in February, including an increase in the output of soda ash by 57.1 percent, caustic soda—by 11.9 percent, synthetic ammonia—by 10.9 percent, and mineral fertilizer—by 4.9 percent.

The volume of production of the products of animal husbandry continued to decline this year. In January and February, 308,000 metric tons of meat were produced in collective and interfarm agricultural enterprises and state farms, which was 7 percent less than in the corresponding period of 1994, and, respectively, 1.118 million metric tons of milk, 19 percent less, and 729 million eggs, 15 percent less. A reduction in the output of the products of animal husbandry brought about a reduction in the volume of output sales to procurement organizations and immediately to consumers by way of direct ties. In particular, the sale of cattle and poultry (in live weight) came to 216,000 metric tons, which was 57,000 metric tons (21 percent) less than in January and February of last year; the sale of milk—646,000 metric tons, which was 359,000 metric tons (36 percent) less, and the sale of eggs—389 million metric tons, and 99 million (20 percent) less.

A fall in the volume of sales of meat, milk, and eggs was primarily caused by a reduction in the herd of cattle in the public sector, as well as a fodder shortage. Thus, as of 1 March 1995 there were 2.1 million head (12 percent) fewer bovine cattle than on the corresponding date of last year, 1.9 million head (22 percent) fewer hogs, 1.6 million head (27 percent) fewer sheep and goats, and 18.2 million (24 percent) fewer head of poultry.

The growth of the cost of construction and problems in financing capital construction due to the difficult financial situation of customers and uncertainty as to the volume of budget appropriations and credit resources influenced the operation of the construction complex unfavorably. Construction organizations with all forms of ownership performed contracting work worth 37.9 trillion karbovantsy, which was 39 percent less than in January and February 1994.

In January and February, 53.6 million metric tons of freight were shipped by rail, or 9 percent less than during the corresponding period of 1994; 27.2 million metric tons, or 23 percent, less freight was shipped by public-use highway transportation.

The merchant marine carried 4.4 million metric tons of freight on routes of all types, which was 3 percent more than in January and February of last year; carriage on foreign routes grew by 6 percent and came to 4.3 million metric tons.

Since the beginning of the year, trunk pipelines have carried 37 million metric tons of crude oil, gas, refinery products, and ammonia, which is 4 percent more than during the corresponding period of 1994.

### Consumer Goods and Services Market

No changes occurred in January and February with regard to stabilization of the production of consumer goods. The output of these goods fell by 20.2 percent compared to the corresponding period of last year, including a drop in January by 21.4 percent.

The output of nonfood goods fell by 31.7 percent. The production of many types of advanced household appliances and consumer durables fell considerably.

An extremely difficult situation emerged at the beginning of the year at the enterprises of the light industry , whose output of goods dropped by 48.3 percent during the first two months of this year compared to January and February of 1994.

The situation with the production of goods for children remains the worst. The output of clothing, knitwear, and footwear came to only 33.8-46.6 percent of the volumes of January and February 1994, and that of hosiery—75.3 percent. The production of underwear for newborns fell by more than one-half.

The situation involving the production of medicinal preparations stabilized somewhat. The production of 11 of 16 groups of drugs increased compared to January and February 1994. The output of anesthetics, fever reducers, anti-inflammatory drugs, and preparations for the treatment of diabetes mellitus increased by a factor of five, and that of preparations for the treatment of oncological diseases, tuberculosis drugs, and anaesthetic drugs—by a factor of three.

The situation remains strained with regard to foodstuffs production. Compared to January and February of last year, the output of foodstuffs dropped by 17.2 percent, including a fall in the output of meat by 17.1 percent, butter by 27.9 percent, whole-milk products by 38.4 percent, canned fruits and vegetables by 56.6 percent, confectionery by 11.6 percent, flour by 7.1 percent, and salt by 3.7 percent.

Due to a lack of working capital, food processing enterprises cannot settle with the suppliers of raw materials and material-technical resources in a timely manner. As of 20 February, accounts payable of the enterprises of the State Committee for the Food Processing Industry came to 3.3 trillion karbovantsy. Difficulties were continuously experienced with the receipt of funds from organizations in the trade sector, whose debt to enterprises of food processing had reached 2.8 trillion karbovantsy, to enterprises of the meat industry—1.3 trillion karbovantsy, and to enterprises of the dairy industry—1.5 trillion karbovantsy.

### Certain Issues of the Living Standard of the Population

Compared to December of last year, the nominal monetary incomes of the population fell by 6.6 percent in January of this year, whereas real incomes, with the increase in consumer prices factored in, fell by 23.7 percent.

Despite the absolute decline in incomes, purchases of goods remained approximately at the level of December of last year. To a degree, this was reflected in the decline of the increment of cash held by the population by a factor of almost three.

In January, the average wage of employees in the national economy came to 3,291,000 karbovantsy, which was 0.6 percent less than in December 1994.

Prices for consumer goods and services grew by 43.1 percent since the beginning of the year (in February, they increased by 18.1 percent compared to January).

Prices for foodstuffs increased by 37.9 percent in Ukraine on the average (in February, by 11.9 percent compared to the previous month).

In the first two months of this year, prices for nonfood goods increased by 31 percent (by 10.3 percent in February).

Prices for paid services to the population grew by a factor of 2.1 (in February, by 70 percent). In February, rates for housing and municipal services increased the most, namely: for gas by a factor of 5.2, for electricity by a factor of four, and water supply and heating by a factor of almost three.

In January and February, 76,400 citizens who needed assistance in looking for work approached employment services. Some 31,500 persons were placed in jobs during this period. As of the end of February, the number of nonemployed citizens who were registered by employment services came to 123,200 persons, of whom 85,500 persons, or 0.3 percent of the able-bodied working-age population were granted the status of unemployed.

In January and February, the State Fund for Promoting Population Employment spent 87 billion karbovantsy on unemployment benefits. In February the average benefit per one unemployed person came to 977,400 karbovantsy.

### Foreign Economic Activities

According to data from the Ministry of Statistics, the total volume of foreign trade in goods (including customer-supplied raw materials and products made with them) came to $1.116 billion in January, of which exports came to $491 million, imports, $625 million, and the negative balance, $134 million.

The volume of trade with nearby foreign countries came to $755.4 million, of which exports, $237.3 million, imports, $428.1 million. The negative balance came to $190.8 million.

The volume of foreign trade with the far abroad came to $450.6 million, of which exports, $253.7 million, and imports, $196.9 million. The positive balance came to $56.8 million.

## Belarus

### Lukashenka on Russia Ties, Domestic Policy

*MK1404071195 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 13 Apr 95 p 3*

[Interview with President Alyaksandr Lukashenka by NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA special correspondent Mikhail Petrachev, on 24 March 1995, in Minsk, under the "Exclusive" rubric: "Alyaksandr Lukashenka: 'A Politician Aspiring to Become a National Leader Must Tell the Truth.' The Belarusian President Believes Boris Yeltsin Has a 'Belovezhskaya Pushcha [Accords] Complex'"]

[FBIS Translated Text] [Petrachev] Mr. President, in the last several months, it has largely been Moscow that has taken the lead in activating the dialogue between Russia and Belarus. The press has been linking this fact with the Chechen events. What was the attitude of Belarusian society toward this "diplomatic offensive" by Russia?

[Lukashenka] It is not true that the Chechen events have had an impact on the development of relations between Russia and Belarus. It was as early as the final stage of the presidential election—when the struggle was between Kebich and Lukashenka—that both of us gave priority to our relations with Russia. People fully supported such a policy. As it happened, the present Belarusian president won the election and, unlike other public figures (I will not name those who promised a lot but failed to do much), he has started to pursue—purposefully and resolutely—a course of rapprochement between Belarus and Russia, even while Russia's leadership was still assessing the results of the presidential election in the Republic of Belarus. Later, both the Russian president and prime minister admitted: "Yes, we have been sizing you up, since we did not know you." I take this as normal: I understand that they did not know yet whom they would have to deal with; I was a completely new person for them, although there had been several meetings earlier, especially with Viktor Stepanovich Chernomyrdin. When there appeared signs of a downturn in our interstate relations, I started to actively initiate movement toward Russia, and not only declaring my intentions—as the previous government did—but taking some practical steps. Immediately after winning the election, I insisted on meeting the Russian president and discussing the question of what our relations should be like—because we lead two brotherly nations, and it would be unbecoming for us, as leaders of these nations, to widen the gap between them that emerged when Shushkevich ruled in Belarus and Kravchuk was in power in Ukraine. This is unbecoming! I have indeed met the Russian president. After that meeting, Boris Yeltsin said that mass media reports about the election in Belarus had been misleading. By the way, in the first months since I came to office, Russia has helped us a lot with energy supplies. Last year, the grain crop was very poor, but—owing to Russian oil—we managed to gather it without losses. The former government had received oil and gas, worth $400 million, on credit. I have promised Russia to do away with such an untoward practice. I have not added even a dollar to Belarus' debt; quite the contrary—$20 million was paid back over the past winter. This was a very difficult task for me, but Russian oil suppliers have seen in practice that Lukashenka is indeed keeping his promise. We have not assumed any new debts during my presidency. When they saw this in Russia, they understood that Lukashenka did not offer his friendship in exchange for cheap energy supplies: He does pay, and pays in full. This has convinced Russian leaders that Lukashenka's proposals regarding integration of Russia and Belarus are prompted not by mercenary motives but by serious intentions.

Negotiations on Yeltsin's visit to the Republic of Belarus started long before the Chechen events. Our meeting was to be held in October, but, then, it had to be put off for several months, since important final documents were not yet ready for signing. Therefore, there was no diplomatic initiative from Moscow in connection with the Chechen events—instead, there were purposeful efforts by both republics, both governments, and both presidents to prepare interstate agreements. Therefore, the assertion that Russia is trying, in this way, to counterbalance and offset the Chechen crisis is, to put it mildly, an untruth, artificially concocted by some of the mass media. We have been purposefully pursuing the path of integration. This is the practical implementation of my election program, which the majority of the Republic of Belarus' citizens voted for in the presidential election. This is a natural and logical development, since our two nations have precisely the same mentality. Sooner or later, someone had to initiate the process of rapprochement between our countries. Yeltsin and Lukashenka did this. I am a rather blunt and straightforward person; and if integration of our nations were a kind of diplomatic game around Chechnya or oil, I would not make a state secret of this fact.

[Petrachev] You were the only deputy in the Belarusian parliament who did not vote for the Belovezhskaya accord. It is rather hard to stand against the majority's will. What were your motives at that time—emotions or political calculations?

[Lukashenka] You know, most probably, it was an intuitive foreboding that our actions were wrong. I was driven by common sense. One can not make responsible decisions resulting in the destruction of an enormous state simply on the basis of rally-minded euphoria and a nationalistic uproar. I realized already then that, by abrogating the Treaty on the Formation of the USSR, we would proceed with tearing apart our economy and ripping up our industrial ties. A group of deputies in the Supreme Soviet hall pressed me: "Why do you refuse to vote? Let us vote on your behalf." No, I then covered the button with my hand and said that I would not vote.

[Petrachev] You had the opportunity to get better acquainted with Boris Nikolayevich Yeltsin. The Russian president has called you his friend several times since then. What impression has he produced on you, as a politician and as an individual?

[Lukashenka] During his visit, Boris Nikolayevich said that we had become friends. I am of the same opinion. The differences in age and in the length of our records of political activity do not frustrate our mutual understanding. I can say openly that Boris Nikolayevich was pleasantly surprised by my understanding of the Belovezhskaya accords's essence. I noted that he had a peculiar "Belovezhskaya Pushcha complex." Boris Nikolayevich was somewhat on his guard while we were driving through the streets of Minsk. He had been told that Belarus was a "bastion of conservatism," a "citadel of communism," and so forth. Being aware that people here had not accepted the breakup of the USSR, he felt this very keenly. But when he saw crowds of people greeting him in the streets, looked into their faces, and talked with our war veterans at wreath- layings, he seemed to have been relieved of a heavy burden. As a human being, he was deeply touched by such a welcome.

Later, during our private talks, I said to the Russian president: "Boris Nikolayevich, please, drive all these thoughts about Belovezhskaya Pushcha out of your head." We do understand what happened then. It was Kravchuk and our Shushkevich who were in need of "independence." Unlike them, Yeltsin had to solve the problem of power in Russia. People are quite correct in saying, in such cases, that two bears would never live peacefully together in one den. What Yeltsin needed at that time was to reinstate one power over all of Russia's territory. Kravchuk and Shushkevich, however, demanded a very high price for their support: "We are leaving. We are destroying the Union." During his visit to the Republic of Belarus, Boris Nikolayevich understood that we had already deduced for ourselves who had played what role in Belovezhskaya Pushcha, and he was grateful to us for that.

The Russian president and I have determined the prospects of our interstate relations. The foundations for our mutual understanding had been laid in Budapest, where only the Belarusian president backed Russia's concern over NATO and other issues. We acted then as a single bloc, like political allies. The stances of Russia and Belarus, and those of Yeltsin and Lukashenka, on many foreign policy matters fully coincide.

We have very good business-like relations with Russia in the economic sphere. Our country is immensely interested in Russia: Some 75 percent of the resources we need are imported from there. I wish to emphasize once again that we are paying for everything. Belarus, for its part, sends over 60 percent of its exports to Russia. Russia is our principal economic and trade partner. All our large industrial enterprises were constructed after the war together with the brotherly Russian people, and now they are working both for Belarus and for Russia. Russian people also have their interests in our country. The Republic of Belarus is situated in the center of Europe and it is a kind of bridge between Russia and the West. Our countries, our peoples, and their leaders have no other choice but to be good neighbors and to cooperate. During the preparations for the Russian president's visit, I met Andrey Vladimirovich Kozyrev, Ivan Petrovich Rybkin, Vladimir Filippovich Shumeyko, and other Russian politicians several times; each time there was complete mutual understanding and a supportive attitude.

It was the balance of Russia's and Belarus' interests that finally impelled politician Yeltsin and a young politician—the Belarusian president—to conclude the Treaty on Friendship, Good-Neighborly Relations and Cooperation and to sign 30 more interstate agreements of utmost importance. They have laid the foundation for actual integration of our countries. And, against this backdrop, the personal friendship of the two presidents has become a very welcome supplement to their activities as statesmen.

[Petrachev] You have just called yourself "a young politician." Winston Churchill once said, in this regard, that a politician differs from a statesman in that the former thinks about how to win the election while the latter feels concern about the prosperity of his country. As a politician, you have already proven your abilities. How are you progressing as a statesman? What are your goals for the next two or three years?

[Lukashenka] It is very difficult for me to make any personal assessments of my actions. The new Republic of Belarus' Constitution entrusts the president with very great powers, and, therefore, I have a lot of opportunities for further professional growth. I am still learning the complicated business of ruling the country, although work at the Supreme Soviet was a good school of political action for me. It is not my business to judge what kind of a statesman Lukashenka is. Opinion surveys show that my rating is significantly higher than that of other politicians, although—as the head of state—I have had to take a number of unpopular measures. In the extent of commodity producers' freedom and liberalization of prices, we have already overtaken Russia, but, unlike Russia, we have chosen not to pursue the path of sweeping privatization.

I want people in Belarus to be able to live a normal life, work well, and receive decent remuneration for their labor. The higher one's physical and intellectual contribution is, the better he should be paid for his work. We have to create a normal humane society, free from any ideological and nationalistic superstructures and bureaucratic constraints. The state must help those in need, and it should not stand in the way of strong and enterprising people—unless, of course, they violate the law. In no case, however, should discipline and order in society be undermined. They ought to be maintained. We must not repeat the mistakes made in Russia, where merchants are getting richer while commodity producers are going bankrupt.

[Petrachev] In the Russian mass media, they are writing a lot now about the President's Security Service. The influence of this agency on Russia's policy has markedly increased. There have been reports in our newspapers saying that similar developments are taking place in Belarus and that Lukashenka seems to be building a "police state." It would be interesting to know what sort of organization your Security Service is?

[Lukashenka] I usually do not answer such questions from our correspondents, but I shall give an answer for Russians. The Security Service, which is responsible for the security of the top state power bodies, the president, the Supreme Soviet chairman, the prime minister, and other officials, as well as for all official visits and official events, numbers only 90 people. This is next to nothing, on a country-wide scale. At present, there is a need to increase the staff of the Security Service at the expense of the KGB, the MVD [Ministry of Internal Affairs], and other agencies, bringing the number of staffers to about 110. In so doing, we are not creating any parallel power structures. In other special services, analogous units are being liquidated. Security Service staffers fulfill their direct duties—protection—and they have neither the legal right nor the operational capability to interfere in public affairs.

Therefore, it would be, to put it mildly, incorrect to talk about a "police state" simply because I recently dismissed the chief editor of NARODNAYA GAZETA from his post. This state-owned periodical, subordinate to the Supreme Soviet, has been fostering nationalism and Russophobia. The parliamentary newspaper has turned into a mouthpiece of extremists from the Belarusian People's Front. It was destabilizing the situation and was calling for bloodshed. Therefore, in compliance with the Constitution, I have dismissed its head; the Supreme Soviet, having recently discussed this question, has not supported its NARODNAYA GAZETA or its chief editor, either.

Yes, I do not want our press to be overwhelmed by political and nationalistic tempests, torrents of mud to be thrown at state structures, or extremists to disturb society. As the president, I cannot allow this to happen—the more so that the Constitution entrusts me with the power to prevent this. I will maintain and restore order in this country. I do not want my fellow-countrymen—innocent or guilty—to be shot in the streets. Only a court—not Mafia gangsters at their gatherings—have the right to pass judgment on people. Incidentally, this is the ABC of any democratic state.

When the tragedy with TV journalist Listyev happened in your country, I sent a letter to the Russian president proposing that a joint initiative be put forward at the CIS summit to create a powerful collective strike force against the criminal world. This worries us a lot, since we are a transit republic for the Russian Mafia. I believe that in this area—like in economics—we will arrive at serious joint decisions with Russia. Incidentally, it was Yeltsin's idea for the two presidents to issue joint edicts. He expressed it during his visit to Minsk. The first edict will deal with science and the mutual recognition of scientific degrees and titles.

It is, first of all, journalists who are very hostile to my—quite constitutional—actions to put things in order. They fear that the lawlessness of the totalitarian age may come back. Therefore, I keep reminding them: "Yes, you are a power—but the fourth estate, not the first." One should respect the first estate's efforts to stabilize society. I am well aware of the fact that journalists live on scandals and crises, but it is immoral to set one's own house on fire and then to take pictures of it burning.

[Petrachev] The Republic of Belarus is presently preparing for a nation-wide referendum. What questions will be submitted to it?

[Lukashenka] There will be four questions. The Supreme Soviet is about to consider them now. The first question is on giving Russian equal status with our state language—Belarusian. The second question deals with the Republic of Belarus' state symbols. Our present coat of arms was borrowed from Lithuania, and the new flag has failed to become the symbol of the nation's unity. They were used during the fascist occupation, and our veterans and elderly people refuse to accept them. As early as during my election campaign, I promised to consult people on that problem. The third question is on the establishment of close integration ties with Russia in the sphere of economics; and the fourth question concerns the further perfection of the Republic of Belarus' Constitution. Under our Constitution, the parliament can impeach the head of state, but the president has no right to dissolve the Supreme Soviet for taking anticonstitutional actions. Therefore, I have submitted the question of amending the Constitution to restore the balance of executive and legislative powers to be voted on in the referendum. I am convinced that if, under Russia's former Constitution, the president had had the right to dissolve the Supreme Soviet, there would have been no October tragedy in Moscow, and the conflicting sides would have come to a compromise at an early stage—without street battles and barricades. Therefore, this time-bomb must be defused today, before it triggers public disorders. This would make life more peaceful both for us and for our children.

[Petrachev] Based on what you have said, a question arises: What, in your opinion, should the new Supreme Soviet—to be elected by the Republic of Belarus' citizens on 14 May—be like?

[Lukashenka] Unlike in other CIS states, in Belarus—on my demand—a purely majority election system has been adopted. No one is elected by party slates. By this system, all candidates for deputies—including those from parties—are to be nominated only in constituencies; therefore, they indeed are the people's choices, not henchmen of political party leaders.

As the president, I would like to see in the new Supreme Soviet deputies who know what real life is—those who have ascended from ordinary life to the highest legislative power body. I would like to see there professionals—representatives of the intelligentsia, the working class, and the peasantry; businessmen; and mass media workers. They must be clever and talented people, who have already smelled "powder" at industrial enterprises, but in no case those "rally-minded boys," who came to the parliament as fighters against the privileges of CPSU members and now are profiting, quite successfully, from those privileges themselves. By adopting the law on the Supreme Soviet, the deputies have secured their wellbeing. Now they have the right not to work, still receiving, however, 60 percent of their present salary until retirement age. But the most outrageous thing is that our lawmakers have taken care of maintaining their personal immunity for five years after leaving parliament. With tremendous efforts, I have managed to cut back these unjustified legal privileges to two years. Therefore, although this may sound hackneyed, our people's new choices must not be only professionals, but also persons of high moral standards.

Of late, the Supreme Soviet has been increasingly adopting laws contradicting the Constitution. World practice shows that it is the executive power that usually feels constrained by constitutional borders; here, on the contrary, the parliament is losing its legal reference points.

[Petrachev] In one of your interviews you said that you came to power "in earnest and for a long time." Are you going to run for president in the next presidential election?

[Lukashenka] By all means. By saying "in earnest and for a long time" I meant two presidential terms. I will use all powers granted to me by the Constitution.

[Petrachev] Russia is undergoing a severe and painful change of the social system now. What is happening there is often called "nomenclature capitalism," or "criminal revolution." Belarus is moving in the same direction: Three-storied mansions are being built near Minsk, and bankers are being shot, too. What guarantee is there that the country's public property will not be divided between apparatchiks and the Mafia in a few years?

[Lukashenka] The guarantee is the person who is sitting in front of you now. The aim of my course is to spare the Republic of Belarus such extreme developments. Privatization is an essential element of market-oriented reforms, but it must not be performed in an uncontrolled and reckless manner. Both in Russia and in Belarus, there can hardly be more than one million people who remember living in a country with a private property system. The mentality of our peoples has been molded under quite different conditions. Therefore, market-oriented reforms must not be forcefully imposed. In England, Margaret Thatcher, during her entire time in office, managed to privatize only 10 enterprises, whereas we are forcing changes in forms of property, receiving, as a result, social and political instability. People's life style and the economy ought not be cut to the quick.

In the majority of privatized enterprises in Belarus—as well as in Russia—no positive results have been obtained with respect to either labor productivity or the social protection of workers. Therefore, every individual enterprise should be, as they say, "probed" in order to determine whether it would be capable of functioning as a state-owned one and what would be the advantages of changing property forms. For instance, our oil refineries, located along the route Russian oil follows to Western Europe, will always be kept afloat, bringing considerable income to the country. Why should we make them private? In those cases, however, where investments are needed to obtain future benefits, we—like in Russia—are for privatization. But no decision on property matters is made here without the president. I am overseeing this issue very closely. We will have neither "nomenclature capitalism", nor "criminal revolution."

You know, sooner or later, Russia will also have to soften its privatization policy. If everything is left there as it is now, this will have a significant impact on the results of the presidential election. Trust my experience: A super-supporter of market-oriented reforms will never become president in Russia. This is not my personal opinion, but a quite objective trend in all the CIS countries.

[Petrachev] Last summer, you gained a sensational victory in the presidential election. What would you wish future candidates for the presidency in Russia?

[Lukashenka] Before starting his election campaign, each candidate must assess his capabilities realistically: Will he be ready to keep all his promises after becoming head of state? Do you think it is easy for me to hold the referendum now, when some of our political elite are crying and howling out loud, nearly calling the president a traitor? I am keeping, however, my preelection promises.

What is most important, a politician aspiring to be the national leader must tell the truth. Russian people will no longer swallow unrealistic promises: They already know—not from some political programs, but from real life—what the market, democracy, inter-ethnic relations, and social justice are. Only honesty and the truth, backed up by a fair assessment of one's own capabilities, can lead a politician to victory in the presidential election.

[Petrachev] Before this interview, you were examining the list of 100 leading Russian politicians, published monthly by NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA. What can you say about the Russian statesmen who were included by experts in the list of the main candidates for president?

[Lukashenka] Without doubt, the most potent Russian politicians today are Yeltsin and Chernomyrdin. They are pragmatists having very great experience of ruling the country. Zyuganov is a serious politician. He is backed by the most numerous party. Zhirinovskiy is a very active and energetic person—recently, he has been here, too. I know, however, that many Russians will not listen to him. He can achieve good results in the parliamentary election, but, in the presidential election, his rivals will have serious advantages over him.

Yavlinskiy is a politician of the new generation. He is supported by the intelligentsia and some mass media. But he lacks large-scale public support. Luzhkov is a very influential figure in Moscow, but his practical activity and, consequently, popularity are confined to Moscow. It is difficult to talk now about Rutskoy's political potential. He is, however, a strong person and knows well what political struggle is.

Rybkin, after becoming the State Duma's head, has virtually within one year grown from a ordinary parliamentarian into a very promising statesman. The same can be said about Shumeyko, the Federation Council head, although his record of service in the highest echelon of power is longer.

[Petrachev] If the presidential election in Russia were held in the form of a beauty contest, Shumeyko could probably win in the very first round....

[Lukashenka] Do not make such ironic comments here, in my office. When, during my election campaign, my access to mass media was restricted, I solved this problem by traveling all over Belarus and talking to people. Russia is an enormous country, and one cannot tour all of it. Television will play a very great role in the struggle for the presidency, and Shumeyko is apt at using it effectively.

I shall probably say now something awfully seditious, but the Russians should delay their presidential election. On the former USSR's territory, two constitutional ways of solving the highest state power problem have been used: Lithuania, Ukraine, and Belarus have held presidential elections, and, as a result, power has changed everywhere; Russia's southern neighbors, however, have pursued a different course and are holding referendums to prolong the presidential terms of their leaders. In Russia, the problem of power must be solved in a way that would not disturb this enormous nuclear state. I think all sober-minded politicians would agree with me. Only do not think that I am trying to interfere now in the internal affairs of a neighboring state. I am concerned, first of all, about the security of my own country. If Russia is in trouble, we will be in trouble, too. We shall not be able to avoid it.

[Petrachev] We have been talking a lot about politics. Now I would like to ask you some questions on your private life. I have read your declaration on incomes. Some other Belarusian leaders look like really rich people, as compared with you—to say nothing about Russian officials. How has your material situation changed since you have been in the president's office?

[Lukashenka] I talk very little about these matters, even in Belarus: People who are close to me know about this all too well, and strangers would not believe me, anyway. Some 30 percent of my salary I am returning to the budget. Certainly, the state provides me with food and clothes, as the president. I have no apartment of my own in Minsk—I live in a state residence. My family, in the village of Ryzhkovichi, also lives in a state-owned house, which I received when working there as a sovkhoz director. My salary is my only source of income. I have neither savings, nor securities.

[Petrachev] Do you intend to go in for tennis—the Russian "state sport"—in order to hold a tennis contest with Yeltsin?

[Lukashenka] Your information about me is somewhat outdated. I have been going in for tennis for a long time now, and I hope to outperform the Russian president at least in this area. I have promised to beat your foreign minister—Andrey Vladimirovich Kozyrev—soon. One of our famous sportsmen, a friend of Shamil Tarpishchev, has helped me with tennis.

Every morning, I jog for five kilometers, and three times a week I indulge in sports: On Wednesdays, I usually play football; on Mondays and Fridays, I play tennis. This exercise helps me a lot in my work.

[Petrachev] In addition to tennis, Russian politicians are keen on publishing their political memoirs. Do you wish to engage in such literary activity?

[Lukashenka] No, my work is taking too much time.

[Petrachev] You live in Minsk now with your elder son—a student; and your wife and your younger son live in the village of Ryzhkovichi near Shklov. Is your whole family planning to move to the capital?

[Lukashenka] Most strangely, my younger son has not expressed such a wish so far. He says: "Father, I do not wish to go to school in Minsk. In two years, I shall graduate from my school here, and then I shall come to you." Distances here are not so great as in Russia, and it is easy for us get together. In Ryzhkovichi, we have a house, a plot of land, all the household facilities, and my family does not wish to change its life style rapidly.

[Petrachev] To conclude our meeting, I wish to say that, in addition to Moscow, I have two nearly native cities, where I used to live and work: These are Riga and Minsk. Now, however, when I go to Riga, I feel like a foreigner there. In Minsk, I have no such feeling. And I have a sincere wish that the border between our countries continue to remain merely a statehood symbol, not tearing apart the economy, culture, and friendly ties between the peoples of Russia and Belarus.

[Lukashenka] I can guarantee this to you, as the president of the Republic of Belarus.

## Moldova

### Foreign Observers Supervise Local Election

*AU1504151295 Chisinau INFOTAG in English 1930 GMT 14 Apr 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Chisinau INFOTAG, 14/4/1995—On April 16, 1,290 local power bodies are to be elected in Moldova, whose seats are contested by 25,800 candidates, INFOTAG was told by Vasile Pascaru, chairman of the Central Election Commission.

The biggest number of candidates was proposed by the ruling Agrarian Democratic Party—10,061, including 831 people running for mayorships in various localities.

Next in electoral activity is the Alliance of Democratic Forces, with 6,159 and 491 persons, respectively.

Other organizations put up the following number of candidates to contest councillorships and mayorships: Moldovan Communist Party 221 and 165; Social Democratic Party 828 and 88; Bloc of the Socialist Party and the Unity Movement 913 and 61; Party of Economic Renaissance 76; National Youth League 73 and 3, Women's Association 345 and 13.

The elections shall be held in 39 areas and municipalities (large cities) of Moldova. The Slobozia, Rabnita, Grigoriopol areas and Tiraspol shall not conduct them.

The voting procedure will be watched by domestic and foreign observers, and 1,964 polling stations will be observed by accredited representatives of political parties and organizations taking part in the elections.

### Central Electoral Commission Reports on Elections

*LD1604161895 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1543 GMT 16 Apr 95*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Valeriy Demidetskiy]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Chisinau April 16 TASS—Local elections were reported good in Moldova on Sunday [16 April] as over half of the electorate had voted by 17:00 local time, the Central Electoral Commission said.

These are the first multi-party elections in the Republic. Vote counting will begin after polling stations will close at 20:00.

Eight parties and blocs and about 1,000 independent candidates are running for seats in the local councils. The population of the break-away Dniester region is not taking part in the elections.

Who will win the elections will become clear later. However, all observers agree that the elections will bring about a change in the balance of political forces in the Republic after a year of the Agrarian Democratic Party's rule.

The party, whose candidates account for almost half of the total, has good chances of success in the majority of constituencies, especially in the rural areas. Nikolay Andronik, parliament vice-speaker, believes this will help "bridge the gap between the upper and lower echelons of power structures in the Republic."

Left-wing parties—the Socialist Party and the newly restored Communist Party—are also set to win the elections. Their influence in the Republic is growing rapidly as people become more and more disappointed with the results of reform. They are opposed by a bloc of democratic forces.

The Christian Democratic People's Front, which advocates Moldova's unification with Romania, has boycotted the elections, following a defeat in the 1994 election marathon.

### Turnout Estimated at 60 Percent

*LD1604201095 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1938 GMT 16 Apr 95*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Valeriy Demidetskiy]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Chisinau April 16 TASS—According to preliminary estimates, about 60 per cent of the electorate took part in Moldova's first multi-party local elections on Sunday.

Elections can be considered valid practically in all constituencies, except in the Moldovan capital Chisinau where only 34 per cent of those eligible to vote came to the polling stations, and Beltsy, Moldova's third largest city, where only 46 per cent of the electorate cast their ballots.

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### Snegur Wants To Amend Language Clause

*AU1504165395 Chisinau INFOTAG in English 1930 GMT 14 Apr 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Chisinau INFOTAG, 14/4/1995—Moldovan President Mircea Snegur sent an enquiry to the Constitutional Court, as well as a draft law on some amendments to Article 13 of the Moldovan Constitution.

The presidential press service has reported also that Mircea Snegur will continue the series of consultations begun after March 29, when he imposed a moratorium on any changes in educational programmes pertaining to language and history courses and ordered to set up a commission to consider students' demands.

The press service did not specify exactly what amendments the above draft proposed. At present, Article 13 reads that the official language of the Republic of Moldova is Moldovan, based on the Latin script.

The students are demanding to rename the language back into Romanian. When this article was discussed in Parliament last summer, one of the variants was formulated as, "the official language of the Republic of Moldova is the Moldovan (identical to Romanian) language."

### Government, Student Strikers Fail To Reach Compromise

*AU1504165595 Chisinau INFOTAG in English 1930 GMT 14 Apr 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Chisinau INFOTAG, 14/4/1995—On Friday [14 April], students continued their strike in downtown Chisinau. Traditionally, they picketed the Government Building and the City Hall, and then blocked traffic in the city's central part. However, the Friday performance ended somewhat earlier than usual, because rain began by lunch time.

The strike organizers called to gather at the Central Square on Saturday and particularly on Sunday, on the local election day. As INFOTAG came to know, the parents of children from several schools, which have been closed and on strike for four weeks, have been officially notified that lessons shall begin next Monday.

Unlike in previous days, the Government Commission and the Strike Committee did not have talks today. On Thursday, they were very close to a compromise and to signing an accord document. As decided earlier, the sides were supposed to coordinate a timetable for consideration and fulfillment of the strikers' demands, to nominate officials responsible for implementing every item in their demand list, and to suspend street manifest ions till May 4.

The sides reached a consensus, in particular, on the order of repaying stipend, salary and pension arrears. However, they failed to agree about solving problems of educational establishments, about granting autonomy to them, and about some other points. After that, the commission ceased the negotiations, and the Strike Committee said the action of protest shall be continued, including on Saturday and Sunday.

### Force Not Ruled Out To Quell Youth Strike Disorders

*LD1404174995 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1550 GMT 14 Apr 95*

[From the "Presidential Bulletin" feature No. 71 (815): compiled by Nikolay Zherebtsov, Andrey Petrovskiy; edited by Vladimir Shishlin]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moldovan Deputy Parliamentary Chairman Nikolay Andronik has said the April 16 local elections will be held in full order and that nothing will impede to normally hold the elections. He told Interfax that many in Chisinau feared that the use of force to suppress students' strike may delay Moldova's admittance to the Council of Europe.

"In case of extreme need and threat of disorder, we can resort to extreme measures. I want to tell those who try to speculate that Moldova may not be soon admitted to the Council of Europe that the republic can survive without the Council of Europe membership for some time, but we will maintain order in our own home," he said.

Chisinau students have been on strike for a fourth week.

The demonstrators blocked the city's central street Friday again and picketed the government and city council buildings.

The Thursday talks between the strikers and a special government commission proved fruitless. The sides were to agree on the date of the consideration and resolution of the strikers' demands, appoint those responsible for each of the demands and refrain from mass actions until May 4.

Agreement was reached on most socioeconomic demands, including the procedure for repaying delayed salaries and grants.

However, the two sides failed to agree on wider independence for educational establishments and a few other demands.

The commission suspended its activities, while the strike committee announced its intention to continue the action, including during this weekend.

## Kazakhstan

### Nazarbayev Calls For Educational Reforms

*LD1604165795 Almaty Kazakh Television First Program Network in Russian 1521 GMT 15 Apr 95*

[Speech by President Nursultan Nazarbayev at the republican conference of educationalists in Almaty on 15 April—recorded, in Russian and Kazakh]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] [Nazarbayev] Esteemed participants in this conference! We have gone through an extremely difficult four years of independence. At the same time we have got over several difficulties, one after another. They include the deep economic crisis resulting from the collapse of the single state and single economy; the construction of a new state, which no one in Kazakhstan had ever done before; the change of one political system of state into another; and changing the planned economy toward a liberal economy. No one among the older generations of Kazakhstan's people has ever tackled such difficult tasks at one time.

At the end of last year we defined an agrarian policy for Kazakhstan so that our villagers could clearly see where we are moving in the future. I think you have read and know about this.

At the beginning of the year we determined industrial policy: Where industry in Kazakhstan is moving to, what our country's priorities are, and what we will devote our main attention to.

We have determined a policy to establish order in the country, to fight against criminal elements, corruption, hooliganism, and all types of crime. We have declared a tough war. This program is also taking shape. You can see this, and the people perceive it positively.

Now we have come to discuss together the problems of national education, from small children to higher education. We should trace this chain all the way through. Next in turn we will determine all the problems of our health-care system. I think we will meet next month to sort it out.

No matter how difficult it may be, and whatever we say about the difficulties, education for people nevertheless takes first place. If we do not teach our children there is no future for the state. Who will govern this independent, free state? Who will work in it? Who will create a new economy? Who will develop our science? Who will be the managers? Who will be the businessmen? Who?

That is why I think it is right that the problem of increasing the intellectual potential, of educating, teaching, and bringing up the younger generation has always been a priority for any state, and that it should also be a priority for us. For Kazakhstan, which is at the first stage of its statehood and independence, where its future is being set out and our role in the world community is being determined, education matters are particular priorities. [passage omitted]

I had a working meeting with the presidents of Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan in Shymkent yesterday [14 April]. At the meeting the program for economic cooperation between these states in the period 1995-2000 was confirmed. Thus, here we are going over to a new phase of integration.

The inter-state Central Asian Bank has begun to invest in these three states' joint projects. In the future we will probably lay an oil pipeline inside Kazakhstan, which will guarantee Kazakhstan and the whole of Central Asia economic self-sufficiency in fuel resources; and jointly construct a car plant in Uzbekistan and a bus plant in Kazakhstan using foreign investments.

In other words, it is profitable. A short transportation route and the availability of raw materials in the region allow us to carry out very profitable trade cooperation in this region. [passage omitted]

The reform that we are conducting is a road that the whole civilized world has traversed. We have invented nothing new. We will go along this road. Let us have an end to arguments. We should create a tranquil old age for old people who have done their job, veterans of war, our grandfathers; pay them pensions, and look after them; we must not argue with them now.

You and I, however, must look to the future. Work is taking place in the absence of a parliament. Various analysts are assessing in different ways what this is—the onset of autocracy and what else—dictatorship. There will be nothing of the sort.

We are building a democratic state, and a democratic state must definitely have a parliament. We will elect this parliament, this year I hope. But to do this we need to conduct some work, including constitutional reforms, in order to elect a new parliament; a parliament that is able to function and that is immune to legal casuistry and political intrigue.

But it is now necessary to immediately adopt a whole range of legislative acts and decrees carrying the force of law and which will give all our activity system and consistency, and eliminate the legal confusion, which impede reforms. Simultaneously they will create a base for the future legislative organ.

Postponing this indefinitely would be destructive both for the state and for the people. That is why, cognizant of my responsibility for the destiny of the country and for the further implementation of the reforms that have been started, I decided to consult the people in the referendum, which we are awaiting.

We will not allow usurpation of power to any extent, because neither president nor political parties nor any state body can stand above the people. The people have the final say.

I am saying all this so that everyone should be clear that improving the education system must be viewed within the complex of political, economic, and social reforms to which we are now trying to give a new quality, new impetus, despite the prevailing situation and all that has been done. [passage omitted]

I am certain that compulsory secondary education must be written into the Constitution of Kazakhstan; compulsory secondary education is the constitutional duty of every person in Kazakhstan at the state's expense. That is obligatory. [applause] I think this will pull everything along behind it.

I repeat once again that any private institution that opens must obtain a certificate showing that it corresponds to the state's standards. Such standards have yet to be worked out in Kazakhstan.

The situation with the other kinds of educational establishments such as I have spoken about must be studied. A particular problem for us is the training of qualified personnel in higher and secondary specialized educational establishments, who can and want to work under market conditions. That is a requirement of the whole of society. My meeting with work forces, artists and scientists, representatives of educational establishments—and just recently I have visited the Kazakh National University, the Technical University, the Institute of Law, Ust-Kamenegorsk University, and yesterday a college in Shymkent—confirm everyone's great interest in solving these problems.

There have been positive changes here. But reform of the national higher education system is nevertheless taking place superficially. The socioeconomic changes in our state are not being taken into account. Education planning has become a topical problem, especially as regards training personnel at secondary and higher level. As usual, there are a lot of things running their own course. We still do not know yet know how many specialists we need. What kind of specialists, and in what areas? In general how long should we teach them? Should we train all of them for five years? All the same—cattlemen and police? Or who should we train? For whom and for what should we teach them?

Maybe more of the money that we spend on training trips abroad should be spent on final year students, for one year. There will be more people and the returns will be quicker in this difficult time. More postgraduates should probably also be sent, also for a year or two, so that we have more of those people and so that we can train more of these people here later on.

The Ministry of Education must look at this. I address these claims above all to the Ministries of Economy and Labor, which are not in a position to offer well-founded forecasts of population employment for at least the mid-term, or to define the labor market's needs for specialists in specific areas. Yet without this neither the vocational-technical, nor the secondary specialized nor the higher schools can define their future.

In short, we can see that we cannot do without a single educational concept, without structural reform, without a strong coordinating center here.

As the result of our meeting today, let you and I instruct the government and the corresponding ministries and departments—there is a council under the president that specializes in these problems—let them work out a concept and program of education for Kazakhstan, so that we should know all about this, and so that it is published and discussed with you. [applause] This program and concept must have been approved and be in operation by the start of the coming academic year. Let them spend the summer on it. That is the instruction I am giving in your presence.

Do you understand what we are we doing as regards education? What is being done in the world? Whether we are doing the right thing? If we are going the right way? We could talk about many things.

In general, the Soviet system of education and our education, especially in schools, is highly valued all over the world, because in the West there is narrow specialization. When they teach it will not be compulsory to study mathematics if it is an arts-based school. That will be all it does; the rest is left aside. Anyway, we try to give a general, full education. All in all, we have to be clear on this. What is secondary school in our country? Nine or 10 years of schooling? Or 11 years? This must also be reviewed. Also, what volume of knowledge are we going to give the children?

In general, there was one very unpleasant thing between children and parents during the Soviet period. Let us recall it, although it is good, of course, to talk about kindergartens here. What is a kindergarten? We tore a working mother away from her children when they are three or five years old, right out of their diapers, from our family. Then they went to school or even boarding school, and then to an institute. Is this not the root of the deteriorating attitude that children have toward their parents? Look, what is happening.

Then there was great industrialization. All young children were torn away from villages and brought to cities for industrialization. All of them ended up marginalized urbanites. In general, everything was torn away. The best upbringing—let us take old Russia and the Kazakhstanis themselves—is an upbringing in the family until a certain age, until they finish school. When a mother is with the child, that is the main upbringing. Do you understand? [applause]

Again, to do this we must create an economy where a mother should be busy at home bringing up the children. In England, for example, that is how things are. I hope and dream that we will live until this period. Our children must be neither in kindergartens nor in preschool institutions nor in boarding schools. They must be with us. Look at how people grew up in the old days; they valued and loved their parents, and were much closer to them, and their parents were close to these children. Was that not so?

[Nazarbayev in Kazakh] We tore away all of them from home and sent them away. Now we say our sons do not respect us.

Our people [ethnic Kazakhs] especially need this question of being taught at 10-year schools, which is legalized by the state. When some of the people's children finish fifth or sixth grade, they tell their sons: You get married and become shepherds, and be beside me, and that is the end of it. What is the future of our people?

[Nazarbayev in Russian] That is why you can see this subject can be discussed in different ways. Now we are complaining about the vocational technical schools. The education is mainly negative there. We also knew about the kind of people who end up in these vocational technical schools. That is why the future lies in other methods of education, not in these.

But to do this we have to put Kazakhstan on its feet, improve the economy and make it richer. So that one head of the family—whoever it is; now you can never tell whether the man or the woman is head of the family—one of them works and the other takes care of the children at home. [passage omitted]

### Possible Reasons For Referendum Explored

*954F2081A Moscow MOSKOVSKIY KOMSOMOLETS in Russian 5 Apr 95 p 3*

[Unattributed article: "'I Will Lead the Parade.' In the Wake of Niyazov and Karimov, Nazarbayev Shoots for Shah"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Having had a taste of the democratic innovations of the West, the post-Soviet Asian countries are returning to what is closer to them in spirit—rule (absolute, preferably) for life. A new preoccupation—a referendum for the extension of the presidential term—is coming to replace the hitherto fashionable presidential elections. This Nazarbayev hybrid is scheduled for 29 April.

A logical step—parliament has been dissolved, there is no government. The entire burden of government of the state has been dumped on the poor president. What might elections be like? Where are we to find the time for them? Yuliy Kim, chairman of the Central Election Commission, explained at a news conference: "Elections would tear the president away from important matters of state." The president is acting the part not of dictator here, but the part of savior, as it were. It was not, in fact, he who broke up parliament—it was broken up on the basis of a ruling of the Constitutional Court, which conducted a hearing once again at the request of the ordinary citizen Kvetkovskaya (former candidate for deputy for an Almaty constituency). The Constitutional Court discovered a number of violations in the procedure of the elections (such violations had not been spotted last year, despite numerous petitions of international observer commissions) and pronounced parliament illegitimate. There is still no presidential edict on the dissolution of parliament, incidentally.

But the ex-deputies are now under the close attention of the authorities. Immediately following the dissolution of parliament, operation Law and Order was sanctioned. The president wanted to ascertain whose private residences were being built in the most prestigious areas of Almaty: on al-Farabi Street, at Kamennaya Plata, and at the foot of Mt. Kok-Tebe (two private residences belong to daughters of the president himself, incidentally, but they are registered to their husbands).

The central newspaper KAZAKHSTANSKAYA PRAVDA carried an article on 18 March in which former deputies Olzhas Suleymenov, Serik Abdrakhmanov, and Mikhail Golovkov—some of the most opposition-minded—were accused of numerous commercial transgressions. The presence on this list of Abdrakhmanov and Suleymenov could be explained at a stretch, if only because they had been involved in commercial activity. But how did Mikhail Golovkov, candidate of technical sciences and lecturer at an Ust-Kamenogorsk higher educational institution, who is not involved in business, come to figure among the commercial offenders? It has been learned from very reliable sources that the article was sponsored by the president's office. But here is something else. Deputy Chernyshev, who is known for his radicalism and implacable position on questions of the status of Russian and dual citizenship (in support of their recognition), was two weeks ago soundly beaten up in the entranceway of his own home. By "unidentified persons," naturally.

Despite their "under-surveillance position," the dismissed deputies have no intention of relinquishing power to the president without a fight. Some 130 members of parliament have united in a so-called People's Parliament and intend to join the election struggle. Seeing that the president has promised that he will exercise autocratic power only up to the election of a new parliament, which will take place in two months' time (perhaps).

The referendum on an extension of the term of the president is itself also greatly in question. The antidemocratic ways of the Kazakhstan president have forced the unification in a single opposition bloc of antagonistic forces—the Lad Slavic Society and the Azat Party, which intend by joint efforts to block the referendum. Members of the Europarliament, who visited the capital of the republic a week ago, voiced their disagreement with the actions of the leader of Kazakhstan also. Is Nazarbayev ready to divest himself of the "garb of democrat" and openly don the silken robe of an oriental despot? Say what you will, this step was easier for Niyazov and Karimov. They made the necessary preparations: They rid themselves of the opposition, took over the press, and intimidated the people. Only the importunate deputies and a disagreeable government have been gotten rid of in Kazakhstan thus far. Will further steps be taken?

## Oil, Gas Ministry Signs Agreement With LUKoil

*LD1504100595 Almaty Kazakh Radio First Program Network in Russian 0600 GMT 15 Apr 95*

[FBIS Translated Text] Our republic's Ministry of Oil and Gas Industry and the Russian oil company LUKoil have signed an important agreement. The agreement envisages cooperation in extracting, exploiting and refining hydrocarbon resources on the territory of Kazakhstan.

On behalf of our side, Oil and Gas Minister Nurlan Balghymbayev signed the document, as did [Vagit] Alikperov, president of the [Russian] company. The parties plan to establish a transnational company in the near future. The tasks of the company will include developing the oil and gas sector of the republic and ensuring the stable and effective functioning of enterprises involved in extracting and refining phosphate raw materials in the Karatau Basin, as well as assisting in the structural reconstruction of Kazakhstan's economy.

There are prospects for them to cooperate with Uzbekistan. It is planned to build another enterprise, with the assistance of Uzbekistan, to transport Uzbek gas to Kazakhstan. The Russian party accepted a proposal put forward by Kazakhstan to take part in building and exploiting a factory in Novorossiysk, to which point pipelines will carry oil from the western regions of our republic.

## Increase in Oil, Gas Exports Expected

*954F2080A Almaty KAZAKHSTANSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 13 Apr 95 p 1*

[Report by Nikolay Zhorov: "'We Expect an Increase in the Oil Export Quota Very Soon'"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Tengizchevroil has been in operation for two years now.

Various rumors and inventions have arisen around Tengizchevroil and the planned projects in the time that the joint venture has been in existence. Nor is this surprising, since realization of the project is of great economic significance both for Chevron and for Kazakhstan. Big hopes are entrusted to this project, and the time frame of its realization of 40 years is very substantial also. And, most important, the oil and gas are worth big money, which makes big policy. It is unlikely that the flow of rumors and inventions will cease, therefore.

Speaking at a ceremonial meeting commemorating the second anniversary, Morley Dupre, director of the joint venture, gave the work of the international work force, consisting of citizens of Kazakhstan, Russia, the United States, Hungary, Ukraine, Belarus, and a number of other republics of the CIS, high marks.

Despite a number of populist statements, professionalism is, as before, appreciated first and foremost at Tengiz. Nationality plays a part only by virtue of the agreements that have been signed in respect to the use of local personnel. The Hungarian community, where several thousand employees of the oil refinery and gas-treatment plant and the fields live, has changed in the past two years. New facilities have grown up, and the rules of habitation have changed. Western specialists pay attention to the accomplishment of global tasks, in this case the production and treatment of the oil and gas. A large amount of humanitarian assistance is being rendered at the same time, local personnel is being trained, and accommodations are being built.

This was mentioned at the meeting by just about everyone who spoke. Some $102 million have been spent merely on the KTL-2 de-mercaptanization installation, a further $7 million have been spent on the retraining of personnel, $23 million have been allocated for the needs of the oblast, and so forth.

The problem of the stripping of the oil of sulfur-containing substances is with the commissioning of the KTL-2 removed. That is, the conditions set by Russia on the quality of the oil transported across its territory are removed from the agenda.

In this connection, according to M. Dupre, "We expect an increase in the oil export quota very soon. The oil-shipment quotas allocated earlier have been exhausted."

Construction of the installation began in March 1994, and its assembly was completed in January 1995. Other components of the installation were designed and manufactured in 12 different countries.

The capacity of the refinery and the de-mercaptanization installations make it possible to produce up to 4.5 million tonnes of cleansed oil. Before the end of the year, there is the real possibility of this figure having been increased to 6 million tonnes. And questions connected with exports of the oil are coming to the fore now. W. Courtney, ambassador of the United States in Kazakhstan, has met with leaders of the European Development Bank, who have declared their readiness to participate in the financing of the construction of a new branch of the oil pipeline. Chevron Vice Chairman Dennis Bonney and S.P. Price, his colleague from Chevron Overseas Petroleum, confirmed that there would be no slowdown in operations at Tengiz. On the contrary, everything will be done for the successful resolution of the oil transportation problems. Contracts have been concluded with 10 companies to this end. Both Ambassador W. Courtney and the leaders of the joint venture believe that for normal operation it is essential to have several pipelines running across various countries. This is necessary for the development of healthy competition and guaranteed uninterrupted exports of oil and gas.

## Kyrgyzstan

### Britain Helps Country Join Interpol Organization

*LD1404140395 Bishkek SLOVO KYRGYZSTANA in Russian 14 Apr 95 p 2*

[Unattributed article: "All paths Lead to Interpol"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Will Kyrgyzstan join Interpol or not? The question is being asked not only by us, but also by the international community, which takes into account that our republic is swiftly being drawn into the network of drug trafficking and organized crime.

Naturally, joining such a serious organization will be rather expensive. According to the regulations, the entrance fee to Interpol amounts to about $50,000, and after that the government has to pay $25,000 a year for another three years into [INTERPOL's] budget.

But there are countries who want to help us—above all, Great Britain. Its government, taking into account all the acuteness of the problems and Kyrgyzstan as a factor within this, as well as obviously having very serious prospects for the development of relations with the republic, has taken on the responsibility of paying $32,000 out of the $50,000 on entry. And they are seeking to have the annual dues reduced to $14,000.

The leadership of the Kyrgyz Internal Affairs Ministry has been informed about all this. It is possible that the recent trip to the Issyk-Kul area—one of the local centers of drug trafficking—by Noel Jones, the British ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to our republic, was partly dictated by attention to this problem.

What steps will Kyrgyzstan itself take in the end? Naturally, it is not easy to find the remaining thousands of dollars needed for membership of Interpol. But the authority of this organization, which has great potential and the richest experience in the struggle against crime, speaks for itself. Moreover, as is known, false economy is always dearer in the end.

### Akayev on Extending Presidential Term to 2000

*LD1504120695 Bishkek Kyrgyz Radio First Program Network in Russian 0800 GMT 15 Apr 95*

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Today is a republic-wide voluntary working day [subbotnik] dedicated to the 50th anniversary of the great victory. Here is a report by our correspondent Irina Karabayeva:

[Karabayeva] A little over half a month remains before the celebration of the great victory. [passage omitted]

President Askar Akayev gave an interview to journalists. [passage omitted]

One more question was put to the head of the state about his attitude toward the idea of extending the presidential term in office until 2000.

[Begin Akayev recording] I think that it is too early for journalists and the public to discuss this problem today. We still have time. We need to finish the elections of 1995 and to form the parliament completely. You know that we have been forming the parliament already for half a year and have not finished yet. I will tell you [words indistinct] only by the beginning of July.

So, I think that there should not be any elections or referendums in the republic in 1995. We must give the people a chance to calm down after the high point of political activity relating to the elections to our parliament. You know, according to our Constitution, the issue of electing the president is entirely the prerogative of the Supreme Council. Remember, the Supreme Council has just started its work.

I think that—most likely sometime in the autumn or toward the end of the year, according to the situation—the Supreme Council will consider and adopt a decision on when and in what form to hold the scheduled presidential election. [passage omitted] [end recording]

## Tajikistan

### Russian Border Guards Control Pamirs Section of Border

*LD1404184395 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1753 GMT 14 Apr 95*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Galina Gridneva]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Dushanbe April 14 TASS—Armed provocations of Tajik opposition militants continue at various sections of the Tajik-Afghan border.

According to the press center of the Russian border troops command, a patrolling unit of the first Khorog border post was put under fire of a recoilless gun from the rear this morning. One border guard was wounded. Border guards' artillery suppressed the fire nest of the enemy.

On the same day servicemen of the Khorog border unit revealed and destroyed a large storage of arms and ammunition in the settlement of Dashti-Yazgolen. The storage belonged to the opposition militants. The day before the Uzbekistan vessel was put under rifle fire in the area controlled by the sixth post of the Pyandzh border unit. The vessel was on its way from Nizhnyy Pyandzh to the Uzbek port of Termez.

At the same time the general border situation is being fully controlled, Commander of the Russian troops in Tajikistan Lieutenant-General Anatoliy Chechulin told correspondents today. In his words, the peak of aggressiveness shown in the Pamirs border section on April 7-13 has passed and the opposition has so far stopped combat operations after having considerable losses. The majority of Pamirs residents did not support the aggressive actions of the opposition militants and are forcing out from their villages all the non-natives.

### Russian Commander Deplores Lack of Support

*MM1404184295 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Apr 95 p 1*

[Interview with A. Chechulin, commander of the Russian Border Forces in Tajikistan, by special correspondent Anatoliy Baranov; date, place not given: "'The Motherland Is Behind Us'"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Dushanbe—In the past 24 hours the Russian border forces have lost six men, one of them a Russian. However, the gunmen paid very dearly for this. The group that attacked a convoy in the settlement of Barchid was completely annihilated. Fifty mojahedin were killed, along with their field commander Mullo Umar. Lieutenant General Anatoliy Chechulin, commander of the Russian Border Forces in Tajikistan, tells us:

"We are the only real force in the region capable of withstanding the opposition. Because, while naming as a casus belli the appearance in Pamir of 350 men from border subunits that are, properly speaking, Tajik, they are attacking not them, but the Russian border posts. Although they themselves say that even if the opposition Islamists did come to power, Russian border guards should, in their view, remain on the Afghan border."

[Baranov] And yet they attack Russian border posts?

[Chechulin] Because neither the local administration, nor the Tajik Government forces can prevent them from going on the rampage and dealing in drugs. But we are preventing them. And we are gradually covering the border more and more solidly.

[Baranov] Do you mean that the gunmen are being pushed into fighting because of the difficult position they are in?

[Chechulin] I would say, because their position is hopeless and futile. This year's military campaign will be their last. Notice that they have not succeeded in taking a single border post, a single point. The tragedy of the 12th border post has not been repeated. And at such a moment, when we should be building on a success that has already been paid for heavily in bloodshed, high-up officials in Russia start saying that all this is unnecessary.

[Baranov] So the mojahedin are in favor of a Russian presence, while P. Grachev is against it?

[Chechulin] Also, the theme of losses among "Russian boys" is being worked up. Although only four Russians [rossiyan], properly speaking, have been killed. The biggest losses are among the Kazakhstani battalion. Apparently the Armed Forces reflect the state of society as a whole, and if things in Russia are a little bit better than in the other republics, Russian soldiers fight a little bit better too. And it must be said that those Tajiks who have been drafted into Russian units—they come under the Tajik Defense Ministry—are soldiers of a very different kind. To my shame, I thought: They'll run away, they won't shoot at their "own people," but after the first boys were killed, they swore to stand firm, to the death. And they are standing firm. And they will.

[Baranov] So it seems that the talk of the poor quality of the drafted contingent is not in accordance with reality?

[Chechulin] In physical terms, you can see for yourself. Look at the conscripts—they are emaciated, small in size. Go to the market—great hulking brutes everywhere, the picture of health, the flower of the national gene pool. And you realize that the ones who got drafted were the ones who could not buy their way out of it and had nowhere to go. It's the same thing in Russia, and in the other republics. In order to send people to serve in Tajikistan, both in Russia and in Kazakhstan you have to have the conscript's formal consent. Those we see here have agreed to serve somewhere where people are getting killed. So can you imagine, with all this, here we sit, not knowing whether anyone is going to make the decision to pull our troops out of here? Why should a soldier be deprived of the right to feel that the Motherland is behind him, that he is defending the Fatherland's interests? I don't understand it....

### Russian Commander on Situation on Afghan Border

*LD1504131295 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1233 GMT 15 Apr 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] DUSHANBE, April 15 (Interfax)—Last night on the Tajik-Afghan border, in particular its Pamir section, passed without significant changes. Opposition gun men opened fire on Russian border posts only sporadically, Lieutenant-General Anatoliy Chechulin, commander of the Group of Russian Border Troops in Tajikistan reported at a meeting with a group of Russian journalists in Dushanbe Saturday [16 April].

At the same time, he noted that the armed conflict on the state frontier "tends to expand". As of April 7, Russian border guards have clashed with armed militia from the Badakhshan autonomous region at four spots already.

Chechulin reported that in recent battles the opposition army had suffered heavy casualties, dead and wounded among its leadership included. The field commander, mullah Umar was killed, the field commander Zaynid-din, whose fighters had raided a border convoy at Kalaikhumb and had attacked the Dashti-Yazgulem post and the first post of the Khorog border unit, was badly wounded. However, the irreconcilable opposition has been trying to regroup its forces for new strikes. Chechulin pointed to an unprecedentedly hostile reaction to militants "among the residents of the Barchit and Porshnev villages and other Badakhshan communities, demanding that opposition forces withdraw."

At a spontaneous meeting in Khorog, the autonomy's capital, on April 14, speakers demanded in the form of an ultimatum that the field commander Madzhnun, who leads local illegal units, leave the city.

Chechulin said that Tajik government troops "need to strengthen their potential on Pamir, if the situation is to be stabilized." He stressed that Russian border troops seek a settlement exclusively by peaceful political means.

"For two years now, without any assistance from UN military observers, we have been conducting negotiations with leaders of armed units of not only in Pamir but in other sections of the state frontier and hope that these meetings will help to achieve peace and mutual understanding."

### Deputy Security Minister Interviewed on Border Clashes

*LD1504154395 Dushanbe Radio Tajikistan Network in Russian 1000 GMT 15 Apr 95*

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] [Announcer] Confrontations on the Tajik-Afghan border have decreased somewhat. However, the situation remains tense, said Major General Bohodir Abdulloyev, deputy security minister of the Republic of Tajikistan, in a conversation with our correspondent. [passage omitted]

[Begin recording] [Correspondent] Bohodir Najmetdinnovich, a few comments on the situation on the Tajik-Afghan border.

[Abdulloyev] Our radio listeners know that recently the situation on the Tajik-Afghan border, to be more accurate on the Badakhshan section of the Tajik-Afghan border, has been severely aggravated. You are aware of those actions by the irreconcilable armed opposition that have taken place at the [words indistinct] and at the section of the first border detachment in the district of [word indistinct]. Literally the day before yesterday, a very savage action committed by opposition fighters took place in the area of (Barchit) village in the Shugnan district of the Gorno-Badakhshan Autonomous Region. There were human casualties from the clashes provoked by the fighters. Up to today, a total of 42 border guards from the Russian and our border troops have been killed.

I must say that all these action are obviously the result of provocations by the opposition leadership in order either to impede the holding of the fourth round of inter-Tajik talks, or to make us more tractable during the talks, to exercise their power, and show that they also possess some means of exerting control over Tajikistan.

[Correspondent] What information do you have on what will happen in the next few days and in the near future?

[Abdulloyev] I must say that at present the situation on the Badakhshan section of Tajik-Afghan border is entirely under the control of both the Russian border guards and Tajikistan's border troops. Those centers of tension which I have already mentioned, and the areas of fighting and clashes have been sufficiently localized. The situation is totally under control.

I can say that if any such actions are repeated, and I am not ruling out this possibility, unfortunately, then adequate measures will be taken. Any attempts to intensify the situation will be intercepted both by the forces of the Russian border guards and by our own border troops, by the Ministry of Security.

[Correspondent] Who are the resisting forces now? Who, concretely, if you have such information, is based on that side of the border, and who is opposing them on this side of the border?

[Abdulloyev] The forces of the opposition formations are confronting our border guards on the opposite side of the border. According to our information, they are moving all their forces, that had been stationed in other regions and on other sections of the Tajik-Afghan border, closer to the Badakhshan area. Despite the fact that they have sustained heavy losses, they are continuing to plan actions further to maintain tension on the Gorno-Badakhshan border section.

However, I must say and reassure radio listeners, if they have any fears these actions and bloodshed might continue, we have sufficient forces. At the moment, the Badakhshan section is being guarded by the Russian border troops and several sub-units of the Ministry of Security of the Republic of Tajikistan. Our border troops are based in Darvaz District. They are also based around (Gash-Siaz Gulen) and (Vanzhen). A total of 80-85 percent of the Russian border troops personnel are young lads from Tajikistan.

Those losses that Russian border guards sustained, and about which I have already spoken today, among them, unfortunately, are very many Tajiks, other citizens of Tajikistan, Kazakhs, as you know, and Russian lads, representatives of many nationalities who are also defending the borders as members of the border guards of the Russian Federation. [passage omitted] [end recording]

### Russian Subunits Reinforce Tajik-Afghan Border

*LD1504193495 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1700 GMT 15 Apr 95*

[FBIS Translated Text] Russian border detachments along the most tense sections of the border between Tajikistan and Afghanistan have been reinforced with subunits and equipment from the 201st motor rifle division and other units from the CIS collective peacekeeping forces in Tajikistan, Aleksandr Suvorov, press secretary to the director of Russia's federal border troops said in Moscow. He said that the heads of the Defense

Ministry and the commanders of the collective peacekeeping forces in Tajikistan had not ignored any of the border guards' requests for assistance in guarding the border between Tajikistan and Afghanistan.

### Rebel Leader Asks UN To Investigate Russian 'Crimes'

*LD1604120895 (Clandestine) Voice of Free Tajikistan in Tajik 0600 GMT 16 Apr 95*

[FBIS Translated Text] Officials from the Islamic Movement of Tajikistan have asked the head of the UN mission in Tajikistan to send a delegation of military observers and experts to Taloqan in the Islamic State of Afghanistan to investigate the crimes of the Russians.

According to a report by the international press office of the Islamic Movement of Tajikistan, Darko Silovic [UN mission head in Tajikistan] said in response that the proposal would be accepted after consultations with the UN secretary general's special envoy [Ramiro Piriz-Ballon].

The Islamic Movement of Tajikistan wants to take part in the upcoming meeting [with the Tajik government in Moscow] with graphic proof of the Russians' despicable behavior, which has caused the death of many civilians and Tajik refugees in Taloqan, the center of the Takhar Province of the Islamic State of Afghanistan.

### Russian General: Tajik-Afghan Border 'Relatively Calm'

*LD1604135295 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1327 GMT 16 Apr 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] DUSHANBE, April 16 (Interfax)—The situation on the Tajik-Afghan border was relatively calm on Saturday and on Sunday [16 April] in the morning. The Tajik opposition's militants did not show themselves, Commander of the Group of Russian Border Guard Troops in Tajikistan, Lieutenant-General Anatoliy Chechulin told Interfax.

He added that, nevertheless, the Russian border guard troops in Tajikistan were on alert.

Chechulin said he believed that the "calmness on the border" was a sign proving that the situation "is becoming more and more controllable and stable." He said this was also due to the inter-Tajik consultations beginning in Moscow on April 17. Chechulin added that, however, the main reason for the calm situation was the success of Russian border guards in wrecking the attempted aggression of Tajik militants.

Chechulin said border guards had to be "prudent and ready for any surprises" on the Tajik-Afghan border.

About 40 CIS border guards have been killed on the Tajik-Afghan border since April 8 as a result of the attacks launched by militants of the opposition Movement for Islamic Rebirth of Tajikistan on the Khorog border regiment in Gorno Badakhshan.

### Islamic Revival Movement Calls For End to Bloodshed

*LD1604183995 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1543 GMT 16 Apr 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW, April 16 (Interfax)—The Islamic Revival Movement has urged the world community, the U.N., the OSCE, the CIS countries and Russia's Federation Council and State Duma to thoroughly assess the situation in Tajikistan and the Tajik-Afghan border.

"The bloodshed in Badakhshan (Gorno-Badakhshan, an autonomous region in the east of Tajikistan—Interfax) must be stopped. Otherwise, combat operations may spread all over Tajikistan," says this movement's statement passed to Interfax on Sunday.

Representatives of the Islamic Revival Movement accused the commanders of the Russian border troops in Tajikistan of "provoking fighting in Badakhshan as a way of putting pressure on the opposition during the inter-Tajik talks," and voiced their adherence to peaceful settlement of the inter-Tajik conflict.

Commander of the Russian border troops in Tajikistan, Lieutenant-General Anatoliy Chechulin announced earlier, however, that it was the Islamic Revival Movement's grouping that attacked a Russian column which was to check the posts and border regime in Khorog on April 8.

As a result of clashes between Russian, Kazakh and Tajik servicemen, and opposition militants, which followed the incident, about 40 CIS border guards and more than 200 opposition militants were killed.

### Rakhmanov Departs on Visit to Kuwait

*LD1704065995 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0545 GMT 17 Apr 95*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Galina Gridneva]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Dushanbe April 17 TASS—Matters aimed at strengthening bilateral, economic and cultural cooperation will be the focus of attention during a three-day official visit of President Emomali Rakhmanov of Tajikistan to Kuwait at the invitation of Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Jabir al-Sabah, the emir of Kuwait.

The Tajik president left for Kuwait on Monday. A number of trade-and-economic agreements, including that on the opening of a direct air service between the two countries are expected to be signed. It is not ruled out that the question of financial aid to Tajikistan will be raised, the presidential press secretary has told ITAR-TASS.

## Uzbekistan

### Karimov Assesses German President's Visit

*LD1404120895 Tashkent Uzbekistan Television in Uzbek 1430 GMT 13 Apr 95*

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] German Federal President Roman Herzog's official visit to our country continued today. [passage omitted] President Herzog gave an interview to our program.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified correspondent] What would you wish for Germans who live here in Uzbekistan?

[Herzog in German with superimposed Russian translation] I wish you the most important thing—a peaceful sky over your heads. I wish you stability. I am very glad that a different time has begun for you when you can openly say what you feel, and openly say that you are people of German nationality. You can now pursue your habits and the traditions which you had lost. And most important, you can return to your native language. I would wish you to preserve all these things, and I wish you all the best. [end recording] [passage omitted]

Federal German President Roman Herzog today visited the Supreme Assembly of the Republic of Uzbekistan, where he met Erkin Khalilov. During the conversation with the high-ranking guest, Erkin Khalilov told him about the tasks facing the newly elected parliament, and about its role in solving legislative, economic, and political problems. He noted that parliamentarians in our republic are doing much to achieve mutual understanding between the Bundestag and the Supreme Assembly, and are trying to raise the friendly relationship between our peoples to a new level. [passage omitted]

After the German president's departure ceremony, President Islam Karimov gave an interview to journalists from Uzbekistan.

[Begin recording] [unidentified reporter] What has been the principal result of this visit, of importance to both sides, and generally what role does Germany have in Uzbekistan's foreign policy?

[Karimov in Russian] Uzbekistan is building its future and has a precise, clear future in international affairs, in foreign policy and in domestic affairs. In this respect it is indisputable for us that a country such as Germany, with its potential in the economic and in other fields, with its opportunities to invest capital, with the place which it occupies today in Europe and not only there, with its authority in all international current forums, and of course with the arrival of what I would call a representative delegation led by President Herzog, we regard this as a great event for Uzbekistan. I mean that given that Uzbekistan has set itself the task of integrating into the European economy, and into world civilization as a whole, if you like, then of course Uzbekistan should build its policies via certain specific countries. That is no secret.

This is why we see Germany primarily as a state which sincerely wants to help Uzbekistan stand on its own feet, to help us lead reforms to their conclusion not only in the economy but also in political life—matters relating to the democratization of our society. The main thing is that Germany is able to help us implement our plans in terms of the economic reforms which we have set ourselves, but not only in terms of this. I see Germany's role, above all, as being to supply German equipment to those compact, small enterprises—medium-sized and small businesses, private enterprises—which are being set up in large numbers. This is because the middlemen involved in construction here go to Germany anyway and buy this equipment and then resell it to us or install in our factories. However, we would like to have direct relations with Germany. We know about German product quality, we know how efficient they are at fulfilling things, and we know about Germany, its power, and potential.

In this respect, I would like again to underline that the president's arrival is not intended to result in specific documents being signed. The point is that a large number of businessmen and bankers have come with the politicians and diplomats. That is another indication of Germany's interest in Uzbekistan.

I would say that the main conclusion which I draw is that a false image is being created about us in Europe—an image that all is not well with democracy here, and that our political reforms are lagging behind. This is being done deliberately in order to cut off our road to Europe so that we cannot integrate into the European economy and into international organizations such as the European Union, the International Monetary Fund, and the World Bank where Germany enjoys great authority.

Here I consider that the impressions of what they have seen here in Tashkent, and their meetings with people, especially in Samarkand and Bukhara, have impressed them greatly. [end recording]

### President Karimov Backs Kazakh Referendum

*LD1404191595 Tashkent Uzbekistan Television in Uzbek 1600 GMT 14 Apr 95*

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Islam Karimov, the president of the Republic of Uzbekistan, went to the city of Chimkent today to take part in the summit meeting of the heads of the republics of Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, and Kyrgyzstan. [passage omitted]

[Correspondent] A news conference of the presidents of the three countries for mass media journalists took place at the end of the meeting. Answering the questions of journalists, Islam Karimov, speaking about the upcoming referendum in Kazakhstan, in particular said the following.

[Begin Karimov recording] The people who live here [in Kazakhstan], basically they are one people—the Kazakh, Uzbek, and Kyrgyz people—of course they are building their future with their own hands. What is necessary today to achieve these goals, these grand, sacred goals? Reforms are continuing. I am sure that they will reach their aims. But what is needed to achieve these goals? We need peace, tranquility, and accord. The people who live here should express their trust in the present policy, or if there is a little steadfastness we will definitely reach our goals. [end recording] [passage omitted]

## Armenia

### Sarkisyan: Azerbaijani Border Situation 'Stable'

*LD1404152195 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1330 GMT 14 Apr 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] YEREVAN, April 14 (Interfax) - Armenian Defence Minister Serzhik Sarkisyan has described the situation on the Armenian-Azerbaijani border as stable. Serious border clashes occurred in the north early last month.

"Now there are no serious incidents, although one cannot say that shooting has died down altogether", Sarkisyan told Interfax on Friday [14 April].

He believes that personal contacts between Armenian and Azerbaijani officials including the presidents and defence ministers were the chief factor for stability on the border. He recalled that the March clashes came to an end after the Armenian leader Levon Ter-Petrosyan and his Azerbaijani counterpart Heydar Aliyev talked on the phone and Armenian and Azerbaijani defence officials met on the border.

Sarkisyan does not expect any serious hostilities in the near future, largely because "the Karabakh army is capable of repelling an enemy offensive".

Sarkisyan welcomed the plan for a meeting in Moscow of the Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia Aleksiy II, the Catholicos of All Armenians Garegin II and the spiritual leader of the Muslims of Transcaucasia Shaykh-ul-Islam Allahshukur Pasha-zade [name as received] to discuss a peace settlement of the Karabakh conflict.

The spiritual leaders are greatly respected by their peoples and that may help foster the 11-month-old truce and give a fresh impetus to the negotiating process.

Sarkisyan said that Yerevan was not against the idea of a joint military exercise by Russia-Georgia and Armenia. "We shall take part in such an exercise, if we are invited", Sarkisyan said.

### Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan Urged To Decide on Gas Deliveries

*LD1404192495 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1526 GMT 14 Apr 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Yerevan, April 14 (Interfax)—The Armenian government has urged Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan to urgently decide on renewing gas delivery to Armenia.

The Armenian government said in its statement circulated in Yerevan today that delivery of Turkmen gas to the Trans-Caucasus and Ukraine had been suspended on April 12 because of discord on financial issues emerged between Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan.

The same source said that this time Uzbekistan had cut off the gas pipeline without warning and without taking into consideration the fact that the countries-gas consumers were paying for it fully and regularly. The Armenian government said such actions on the part of Uzbekistan were "unacceptable."

The Armenian government will once again suffer a serious loss because of the suspension of gas supply. Gas supply to the population has been reduced to a minimum, the same source said.

In the meanwhile, Armenian Energy and Fuel Minister Miron Shishmanyan left for Ashgabat on April 13 to negotiate on renewing gas delivery.

Earlier, Armenian Prime Minister Hrant Bagratyan had a telephone conversation with the Turkmen leaders on the same problem. He also urged Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin to supply Armenia with Russian gas until Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan managed to settle the financial dispute.

Armenian residents now have electric power for only one hour a day instead of two hours earlier.

### Uzbek Closure of Gas Pipeline Condemned

*LD1504175295 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1620 GMT 15 Apr 95*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Tigran Liloyan]

[FBIS Translated Text] Yerevan, 15 April—Following Uzbekistan's latest closure of the gas pipeline feeding fuel to the Transcaucasus and Ukraine, because of disagreements with Turkmenistan, the Armenian Government has issued a statement.

The document circulated here today comments that it is typical of Uzbekistan to close the gas pipeline without warning, and to fail to take account of the regularity with which the states consuming the gas have met the payments. The national economy will once again suffer substantial losses and supplies of electricity to the population have once again been reduced to the minimum, the statement says.

The government of Armenia declared that it considers such methods to be impermissible. The document calls upon the governments of Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan to resolve the issue of resuming gas supplies to Armenia as soon as possible.

The gas pipeline was closed because of financial disagreements between Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan. Amongst other things, the Uzbek side is demanding increased fees for transit of Turkmen gas through its territory.

### Prime Minister 'Dissatisfied' With Privatization Pace

*LD1604135695 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1228 GMT 16 Apr 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] YEREVAN, April 15 (Interfax)—Armenian Prime Minister Grant Bagratyan said he was dissatisfied with the rhythm of privatization in the republic.

He blamed such a situation on the state commission on privatization during the cabinet's meeting on Saturday [15 April].

Bagratyan said such a situation put under threat international financial organizations granting large credits to Armenia. He repeated that international financial organizations conditioned granting credits with active reforms for transition to the market economy.

Armenia expects to receive from the IMF, the World Bank and the countries-donors about $400 million which would allow Yerevan to significantly reduce the budget deficit.

Armenia will offer for direct cooperatizing the second group of government enterprises (53) on April 15.

The first group included ten enterprises.

## Azerbaijan

### Dagestan-Baku Rail Traffic To Resume 15 Apr

*LD1404191195 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1550 GMT 14 Apr 95*

[From the "Presidential Bulletin" feature: compiled by Nikolay Zherebtsov, Andrey Petrovskiy, edited by Vladimir Shishlin]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Rail links between Azerbaijan and Dagestan cut off by Russia at the end of December after the outbreak of fighting in Chechnya is due to reopen on Saturday, a senior presidential source in Baku told Interfax.

He said agreement on the resumption of rail traffic between Baku and Makhachkala was reached after three days of talks in Moscow between Russia and Azerbaijan earlier this month.

The source referring to Russian PM Viktor Chernomyrdin's resolution No 308 said Moscow has now lifted restrictions on a range of shipments including food and humanitarian supplies, oil products and some other cargoes.

He said that passenger rail traffic between Azerbaijan and Dagestan will also be resumed in the next few days.

However, the resolution says Russia will tighten control of cross border shipments.

The source said that the heads of the Russian border guards and security services were opposed to easing border controls between Russia and Azerbaijan.

Azerbaijan's First Deputy Premier Abbas Abbasov told Interfax that more than a thousand freight cars carrying supplies to Azerbaijan were stranded on the Russian border.

In his view, the resumption of rail traffic could give a nudge to the Azeri economy sustaining enormous damage after Moscow's decision to seal off the border with Azerbaijan.

Abbasov said the rail communications between his country and Dagestan is to be resumed in full by May 12.

### Guliyev: Russian Duma Discussion of Karabakh 'Interference'

*NC1404212495 Baku TURAN in English 1318 GMT 13 Apr 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Baku, April 13 (TURAN)—A protest due to discussion the problem of Nagorno-Karabakh in the Russian Duma was expressed by the Rasul Guliyev, Speaker of the Azerbaijan's Parliament and vicespeaker Yashar Aliyev in the telegrams which were addressed to the Chairman of Duma Ivan Rybkin and Chairman of the parliamentary commitee of Russia for the CIS countries Konstantin Zatulin. The leaders of the Milli Mejlis of Azerbaijan stated that such discussions are brutal interference into the domestic affairs of the sovereign Azerbaijan.

According to Rasul Guliyev such actions can cause damage to the Azeri-Russian relations and run counter with the long-term interests of both countries. "Invitation to such hearings the representatives of self-proclaimed 'Nagorno-Karabakh Republic' which was recognized neither by the world community nor by Russia causes a serious damage to bilateral relations. In fact it is a refusal from the bilateral friendly relations with Azerbaijan," reads the telegram.

Leaders of the Azeri parliament remind that the authorities of Azerbaijan declined demand of some forces and organisations in the republic to discuss the Chechen problem at the session of the Milli Mejlis. "That will not be useful for the Azeri-Russian relations," reads the telegram.

According to Guliyev and Aliyev the refusal from the discussion of the internal problems of both countries will help to strengthen interstate and interparliamentary relations between Russia and Azerbaijan. "Russia and Azerbaijan are two sovereign independent states and they have no right to interfere the internal affairs of each other," reads the telegram.

### Gasanov: No Reason for Iran To Worry About Oil

*NC1404152595 Baku TURAN in English 1549 GMT 12 Apr 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Baku (April 11) TURAN—"I think that Velayati has not any ground to worry, both our states have all opportunities for joint production of oil in the Caspian sea," Gasan Gasanov commented on the statement of the Iranian Foreign Minister. The Minister said that Azerbaijan also wishes soon determination of the status of the Caspian sea as all seas and lakes have the international status and the Caspian countries also must have it. "But the attempts to connect the right of Azerbaijan for production of oil with the status of the Caspian sea are groundless, when Iran was the potential member of the consortium it did not think of that," said Gasanov.

"At the same time I would assess the words by Velayati as the change in the political course of Iran towards Azerbaijan or the refuse from cooperation. We think that not any statements can prevent our cooperation with Iran. I believe that there is nothing worrying in his statement," noted Gasanov. "Those who do not take part in this consortium will take part in the other one," Gasanov noted.

### Counterfeit $100 Bills From Iran Confiscated

*NC1404193495 Baku TURAN in English 1611 GMT 12 Apr 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Baku (April 12) TURAN—On April 10 the employees of the Ministry of National Security confiscated a great number of dollars in denomination of $100. The Ministry of National Security reports that the dollars were delivered from Iran.

The same source mentions that the dollars are well falsified, but the protective magnetic tape is inaccurate.

The Ministry of National Security warns the citizens not to purchase dollars on the "black market".

## Georgia

### Deputy Foreign Minister Confers With Iranian Counterpart

*LD1604175595 Tehran IRNA in English 1718 GMT 16 Apr 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tehran, April 16, IRNA—Iran's deputy foreign minister for Euro American affairs, Mahmud Va'ezi met his Georgian counterpart Ukleba in Tbilisi on Sunday [16 April].

In the meeting, mutual cooperation, regional developments, Iran- Georgia stance towards the process of settlement of regional conflicts such as Karabakh, Chechnya, Iraqi Kurds, Afghanistan and the Tajik crisis, as well as activities of regional organizations, were discussed.

A high ranking Iranian delegation headed by Va'ezi arrived in Tbilisi on Sunday to make arrangements for the visit of Iranian president to Georgia.

President Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani is expected to arrive in the Georgian capital on April 19.

### Talks Continue With Iranian Minister

*LD1604211295 Tehran IRNA in English 2019 GMT 16 Apr 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tehran, April 17, IRNA—Deputy Prime Minister of Georgia and Georgian Chairman of the Iran-Georgia joint commission Kervailesh Vily [name and title as received], in his meeting with Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister for Euro-American Affairs, Mahmud Va'ezi in Tbilisi on Sunday, said he was looking forward to the visit to Georgia of President Hojjat ol-Eslam Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani.

The two officials also discussed topics in relation to the scheduled second assembly of the joint commission of Iran and Georgia that is to discuss transport of goods between the two countries in [word indistinct].

They also stressed the need for closer cooperation between the two countries as Caspian Sea states.

The Georgian official expressed pleasure with the linking of northern Iran by railway with the Persian Gulf port city of Bandar [words indistinct] he said, would help transit of goods to Iran from Europe and to other countries from the Persian Gulf.

### Defense Minister: Air Defense To Be Linked With Russia

*LD1504151095 Tbilisi IPRINDA in Russian 1200 GMT 15 Apr 95*

[FBIS Translated Text] Tbilisi—According to the news service of the Georgian Ministry of Defense, a conference of military commissariat chiefs discussing questions of improving the system of accounting and mobilization resources ends in Tbilisi on 15 April.

Addressing the conference, Lieutenant General Vardiko Nadibaidze, Georgian minister of defense, said that due to known objective factors, Georgia would be unable to build an army alone in the next few years. He said Russia would actively help the Georgian side in this and that the first steps had already been taken. For example, Nadibaidze noted, the Georgian air defense system had not functioned until recently. In two or three months the command post in Tbilisi will be linked to the command post in Moscow, therefore creating a common air defense space. Nadibaidze also said that 80 percent of the air defense equipment had already been installed. He said the Georgian air force would soon have a fleet of fighter-interceptors to protect Georgian airspace.

### Foreign Minister Opposes Eastward Expansion of NATO

*LD1404232095 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1717 GMT 14 Apr 95*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondents Dmitriy Gorokhov, Yuriy Malinov, Vladimir Malyshev]

[FBIS Translated Text] Athens, 14 April—"Russia has helped Georgia set up the Georgian army. As well as having military bases set up, we also want to see our soldiers attending Russian military schools. We welcome the understanding shown by Russia." This was stressed in an interview given to an ITAR-TASS correspondent by Georgian Foreign Minister Aleksandr Chikvaidze behind the scenes of the summit of foreign ministers of the member-countries of the Black Sea economic cooperation zone taking place here.

He said that both Georgian head of state Eduard Shevardnadze and he would definitely come to Moscow on 9 May to mark the 50th anniversary of victory, which was a celebration for everyone.

I believe, the minister said, that it is important for Georgia to have a neighbor like Russia. Everything in the world is done with consideration for Russia, everyone reckons with her. According to him, Tbilisi does not support NATO's attempts to expand its membership as this would lead to Ukraine and Belarus finding themselves in a buffer zone. "Russia should be drawn into NATO as much as possible," he said, "while she should be allowed the status due her, because Europe cannot survive without Russia. If the Alliance is expanded at the expense of the satellites and republics of the former USSR then there will once again be confrontation and the cold war will start again. I do not think that that would be in the West's interests."

A. Chikvaidze said that Russia took a serious view of the problem of Georgia's territorial integrity. "I believe", he added, "that Russia has its interests in the Caucasus and such republics as Georgia and Armenia are serious outposts for her."

### Shevardnadze Hears Report on Fight Against Crime

*LD1404134295 Tbilisi IPRINDA in Russian 1100 GMT 14 Apr 95*

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Tbilisi (IPRINDA)—On 14 April, Eduard Shevardnadze, head of the Georgian State, met the members of power ministries and departments of the republic of Georgia.

In his address, Prosecutor General Jamlet Babilashvili said that the prosecutor's office is working intensively to clear up terrorist acts. He categorically refuted the rumors concerning the kidnapping of people and extracting their bodily organs, and added that not a single such case has been registered. In his words, the criminal situation has become stable in 40 towns of the republic. In the meantime, instances of theft of unique church properties and paintings by Niko Pirosmani and other famous painters has grown (in Tbilisi alone 13 instances of theft have been registered). The prosecutor general added that tanks, cranes, cisterns, etc, are being cut to pieces in order to sell them as scrap metal.

According to him, 3,635 people are wanted by the police, out of which 417 are being sought on murder charges.

Georgian Interior Minister Lt-Gen Shota Kviraia told those gathered at the meeting that Russian colleagues and the command of the Russian Troops in the Transcaucasus are rendering tangible assistance to the Georgian police. According to the minister, the alliance of criminals with businessmen and high-ranking officials—which is how the Mafia clans are created—poses a great danger. In Kviraia's words, the law-enforcement bodies have detained 25 criminal groups charged with robbery and racketeering. He stressed the need to strengthen contacts with CIS colleagues in order to combat organized crime, and added that owing to similar cooperation, 80 criminals have been arrested in various republics of the former Soviet Union. [passage omitted]

Kviraia also noted that last year 20 heads of district internal affairs departments were released from their posts and 196 policemen sacked for abusing their power. Currently, Abkhazia has become a shelter for criminal elements and dangerous criminals from all over the CIS.

In his address, Security Service chief Lt-Gen Igor Giorgadze noted that the Customs Service and the passport regime are, in effect, not functioning and that any foreigner can infiltrate the country without difficulty. Smuggling arms and narcotics has become rife. Giorgadze said that five percent of Security Service employees have been charged on criminal offenses. The general also noted that Security Service employees have captured 29 heavy trucks full of arms and thus prevented an international scandal. Giorgadze noted that currently the Security Service is looking for $50 million which was destined for Georgia, but no one knows where or by whom it was lost. The general added that despite the fact that currently there is no control over Abkhazia, the Security Service has managed to register 83 serious crimes perpetrated by the Abkhaz side against the Georgian population.

### Abkhazia Warns of Large-Scale Georgian Provocation

*LD1404180695 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1639 GMT 14 Apr 95*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Anatoliy Yurkin]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow April 14 TASS—Abkhazia has warned the command of the Commonwealth peace-keeping force and the U.N. Military observer mission in the Georgian-Abkhazian conflict zone about a possible large-scale provocation.

The ABKHAZPRESS news agency told ITAR-TASS today that the warning is caused by information of the republican Interior Ministry on the planned occupation of the Abkhazian Ghali region by Georgian troops on April 16-17.

According to the Abkhazian Interior Ministry, Georgian troops are located in the settlement of Rukhi and on the left bank of the Inguri River. Personnel and materiel are being concentrated near the town of Zestafoni. Several Georgian companies with an overall strength of 200 penetrated in Abkhazia on April 9 trying to take advantageous positions for combat.

The Abkhazian Interior Ministry fears that the operation may break negotiations on Georgian-Abkhazian settlement, destabilize the regional situation and resume combat operations.

## Abkhazia Sends 16 Policemen To Protect Nuclear Plant

*LD1404165295 Tbilisi IPRINDA in Russian 1420 GMT 14 Apr 95*

[FBIS Translated Text] Zugdidi (IPRINDA)—Despite the recent assurance from Major General Yuriy Kozlov, the acting commander of the Russian peacekeeping forces in the conflict zone in Abkhazia that the Enguri hydro-electric station would henceforth be protected solely by the "blue helmets", the Abkhaz side has dispatched 16 Abkhaz policemen to the station. The same source reports that out of four power blocks only two are functioning.

## Latvia

### Birkavs on EU Associate Membership Agreement

*LD1404194395 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1627 GMT 14 Apr 95*

[From the "Diplomatic Panorama" feature]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Riga, April 14 (INTERFAX)—Latvia's Foreign Minister Valdis Birkavs believes that his republic "has proved its ability to compete well against East and Central European states". He declared this in an interview with Interfax in Riga, commenting on the agreement on Latvia's associated membership in the European Union, initialed in Brussels.

Most countries have taken 5-10 years of negotiations to conclude such documents, Latvia has "managed" over two years, Birkavs said.

The initialed treaty means the completion of putting the final touches to this document, which, as Riga hopes, will be signed in late May or early June. "At least two EU states - Germany and Denmark - have given an assurance that they will do all they can to sign the agreement within precisely these terms," Birkavs noted.

According to Latvia's foreign policy concept, endorsed by parliament last Friday, membership in EU alongside work in the West European Alliance, and preparation for entry in NATO are top priority tasks for Riga.

### Finance Minister Attends EBRD Meeting in London

*LD1404165795 Riga Radio Riga Network in Latvian 1500 GMT 14 Apr 95*

[FBIS Translated Text] At the annual gathering of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development [EBRD] in London this week, it has been noted that the projects carried out by the bank in Latvia are developing as planned, and collaboration is to continue. Taking part in this gathering are the Latvian Finance Minister Andris Piebalgs, and a delegation from our country. Reporting on the situation in Latvia, the finance minister emphasized that in future the Latvian Government will give its guarantees for credit repayments only to projects included in the state investment program. Other loans have to be guaranteed by commercial banks. Representatives of our country also met representatives of the Northern [as heard] Investment Bank, the European Investment Bank, and Japanese banks. They expressed readiness to invest in Latvia without involving government guarantees.

### 'Saimnieks' Votes To Merge With Democratic Party

*WS1704095795 Riga DIENA in Latvian 6 Apr 95 p 1*

[Report by Nellija Locmele: "'Saimnieks' Decides To Unite With DP"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Riga, 5 Apr—At its meeting yesterday, members of the "Saimnieks" Party decided, in great unanimity, to merge with the Democratic Party [DP], and elected Ziedonis Cevers, their former leader and the only candidate, as cochairman of the newly united party. Participants in the meeting also accepted the statute and basic platform of the new party.

The decision to unite had already been accepted by the DP. The founding congress of the new party, to be called the "Democratic Party Saimnieks," will be held on 29 April.

All primary problems were unanimously resolved during the meeting in accordance with directives from the governing board. There were no alternative candidates proposed for either the post of cochairman of the new party or for the posts of board members or delegates to the congress. All of the assembled party members voted for Ziedonis Cevers to become cochairman; he was the only one to abstain from the vote.

Andrejs Rucs, former "Fatherland and Freedom" member, who gained widespread popularity by arresting two Russian Army generals and by several times changing candidate lists during last year's city board elections, was also appointed as a member of the delegation to the congress. Rucs had earlier attempted to join DP, but was excluded after protests from other party members. At the DP congress on 25 March, the opinion was voiced that DP will oppose including Rucs on the candidate list for the elections to the sixth Saeima [parliament], if indeed his candidacy is proposed by "Saimnieks."

As Cevers told DIENA today, his party is ready to join a coalition with either "Latvia's Way," the Farmers Union, or the Latvian National Independence Movement, depending on the results of the voting.

"We are ready to work in parliament, as well as in the government. We already have concrete projects, including, for example, how to combat crime," said Cevers.

## Lithuania

### Treaty on Associate EU Membership Signed in Brussels

*LD1304144695 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1044 GMT 13 Apr 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] VILNIUS, April 12 (Interfax)—On Wednesday [12 April] in Brussels, Secretary (deputy minister - Interfax) of Lithuania's Foreign Ministry Albinas Januska and Director of the General Directorate of the Foreign Policy Commission under the European Union Alan Mayhev [name as received] signed a treaty on the Lithuanian Republic's associate membership in the European Union, the press service of Lithuania's Foreign Ministry told Interfax.

According to the press service, after the signing ceremony Januska declared that "Lithuania will fulfill the Republic's obligations to receive the status of a full-fledged member of the European Union."

Januska pointed out that "the transition period on the way to the EU will last until the end of 1999 for the republic." He underlined that Lithuania is likely to take part in the conference of the EU member-countries this June.

During the negotiations in January 1995 representatives of this European organization put forward a provision in accordance with which Lithuania's membership in the EU rely on adoption of the decree on foreigners' right of land ownership in the republic and of the decree on lowering norms restricting foreign investments. Lithuania agreed to prepare and to adopt these decrees in the near term.

The press service reported that Latvia and Estonia have also initialled treaties on associate membership in the European Union.

### Seimas Deputy Denies Allegations of Money Laundering

*LD1504115495 Vilnius Radio Vilnius in English 2100 GMT 14 Apr 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Member of parliament Alfonsas Navickas has denied all allegations that he laundered Communist Party funds and says that may be he will go to court. He called the articles in the daily RESPUBLIKA slanderous and said all that they want to do is to compromise the ruling majority in the Seimas. Alfonsas Navickas made this statement on Friday [14 April] during a press conference. He was at one time the controller of the Lithuanian Communist Party funds. This week RESPUBLIKA began a series of articles in which they claim that members of the Communist Party, now the Lithuanian Democratic Labor Party, set up companies to launder party funds. Mr. Navickas said that his companies were set up to protect the Lithuanian Communist Party funds from being taken over by (?its pro-Moscow) forces. He said [words indistinct] that in 1990 the party had 6 million rubles in its treasury of which 1 million were split out to party members that were put out of work and the remainder was put into the limited stock company "Ida."

In 1991 by decree of the Supreme Council all the funds of the former Communist Party were placed into the national budget, said Mr. Navickas. Accordingly, he said [words indisctinct] He further stated that these accusations of so-called laundering are pure fiction and that he is prepared to give all of the documented evidence to support it.

The Conservatives in the Lithuanian Seimas proposed to create a committee to investigate the laundering of Communist Party funds. Conservative faction members said that a temporary committee should be established to investigate the accusations regarding Communist Party funds and to determine if any present high-ranking members of the government and Seimas had anything to do about this so-called laundering.

The Vice Chairman of the Seimas, Mr. Egidijus Bickauskas, after reading the accusations in RESPUBLIKA regarding this issue, made a statement on Wednesday in which he asked for a special commission, so that the truth be known.

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